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Hongkong Daily Press.

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[a1545]

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Ho. gkong, 14th August, 1903. [a3389]

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860a]

CLUB GERMANIA.

NOTICE.

THE 6th ORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the Members of the Club
Germania will be held in the CLUB HOUSE,
on MONDAY, the 25th APRIL, 1904, at 5.30
P.M.

By Order,

G. FRIESLAND,

11th Secretary. [1039]

NOTICE.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the Members of the Hongkong General
Chamber of Commerce will be held on
WEDNESDAY, the 27th APRIL, 1904, at
3.30 P.M., at the CHAMBER ROOM, City
Hall, for the purpose of receiving the Com-
mittee's Report and Accounts for the year
ended 31st December, 1903, electing the Com-
mittee for the ensuing year and transacting
general business.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE,

Secretary. [1046]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE HALF-YEARLY GENERAL
MEETING of Members of the above
Club will be held in the CITY HALL, on
SATURDAY, the 30th APRIL instant, at
4 P.M.

By Order,

T. F. HOUGH,

Clerk of the Course. [1040]

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CALIBRE 7.63 mm.
With CHAMBER for 10 CARTRIDGES
FIRING 10 SHOTS in 2 SECONDS.
SIEMSEN & CO.
Hongkong, 8th October, 1900. [54]

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and NEWCASTLE CHILLED SHOT in
all Sizes, Nos. 10 to SSG. AIR GUNS and
AMMUNITION in Variety.

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Hongkong, 28th November, 1902 [105]

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A DIARY OF THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR with MAPS and ILLUSTRATIONS:
in Parts. Part I, ready ... 60 cts.

The Upland in Far Cathay, by Ng

Hing Shang ... \$1.50

The Strand War Map ... 950

New Map of Korea on Large Scale ... 500

Medical Annual 1904 ... 600

The Fiscal Question, Hand-Book to the

Story of Japan, War Edition ... 190

Nuttall's Encyclopedia ... 280

Dennis Dent, by Hornung ... 175

Tropical Diseases, by Manson; New Ed. 900

Chambers' Mathematical Tables ... 350

Leo Tolstoy, by Knowlton ... 190

Chambers' Etymological Dictionary ... 900

Chambers' Large Edition Dictionary ... 950

Rational Home Gymnastics, by Nissen ... 250

Arabian Nights; Illustrated Edition,
Translated by Burton; 12 Volumes,
Limited Number of Copies Printed 100,000

Russian Self-Taught ... 150

Red Morn, by Max Pemberton ... 175

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15, Queen's Road,

Hongkong, 16th April, 1904. [a35]

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EVERYBODY SHOULD TRY THESE ITEMS

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A fine, full, and fruity wine.

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LATEST NOVELTIES IN NECKWEAR.

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W. LAHMEYER & CO., FRANKFURT A/M.**

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DEVELOPING AND PRINTING UNDERTAKEN.

GOOD WORK, PROMPT RETURN.

LONG, HING & CO.,

PHOTO GOODS STORE,

17A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1903. [a38]

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Fully detailed Estimates drawn up free of charge upon application to the above.
Hongkong 3rd December, 1903. 333

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TOM SMITH'S CRACKERS.

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DATES, FIGS, RAISINS, ALMONDS and NUTS.

CHEESE [STILTON, CHEDDAR, GORGONZOLA, ROQUEFORT, CAMENBERT,
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YORK HAM and BEST ENGLISH BACON.

TOYS, TOYS.

G. GIRAULT. [a40]

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Hongkong, 22nd April, 1904. [1016]

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Hongkong, 18th November, 1901. [57]

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Hongkong, 6th May, 1903.

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Prices.

COMPANIA GENERAL DE TABACOS

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Barcelona and Manila.

Hongkong, 20th April, 1904. [1054]

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CANTON

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to MACAO, thence to CANTON and back to

Hongkong, will be found interesting and

enjoyable

WM. FARMER,

Proprietor.

[a607-1977]

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B. ST. ESTEPHE (Red Capsule)	\$8.00	\$9.00
C. ST. JULIEN (Red Capsule)	10.00	11.00
D. LA ROSE (Red Capsule)	13.50	14.50
CHATEAU HAUT BRION LARRIVET	20.00	22.00
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CHATEAU LA TOUR CARNET	33.00	
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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

[31]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS
Only communications relating to the news columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.
All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
No anonymous signed communications that have already appeared in other papers will be inserted.
Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash.
Telegraphic address: PARSIS. Codes: A.B.C. 5th Ed.
Lester's
P.O. Box, 33, Telephone No. 12.

MARRIAGE.

On the 8th April, at Yokohama, J. H. ROBERTSON, of Yokohama, to Miss GERTRUDE M. STERN, of New York.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VOGES ROAD, J.L.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 23RD APRIL, 1904

The chief sensation of the moment, as far as the war between Japan and Russia is concerned, is the resignation of Admiral ALEXIEFF, as announced in our London telegram published yesterday morning. REUTER'S despatch appearing in another column to-day adds the information that the reason of this resignation is that Admiral ALEXIEFF finds himself "practically superseded, except in civil affairs" and that the appointment of Admiral SKRYDLOFF, who is notoriously hostile to him, was made without consulting him. It is to be gathered that the post which Admiral ALEXIEFF has resigned is the Viceroyalty of the Far East, that office with the pompous style which was given to him by the Tsar last year. His lesser command, that over the Russian squadron at Port Arthur, which he assumed temporarily after Admiral MAKAROFF'S death on the 13th instant, he could not resign until Admiral SKRYDLOFF arrives to relieve him. We may conclude, therefore, that Viceroy ALEXIEFF wishes to cease to be Viceroy of the Far East. We see thus the curious spectacle of the man responsible for the war anxious to retire from his position before the war is more than two months and a half old. That he was so responsible we think that every fair-minded man must agree. Dr. DILLON in the March number of the *Contemporary Review* showed this very conclusively, but additional evidence can be found in abundance in the correspondence contained in the Japanese White-look which we noticed last week. It can hardly be doubted that the S. Petersburg Government sees now how Russia has been led by

her Viceroy into a war for which she was quite unprepared, for no other reason than that this Viceroy entirely misestimated the character and determination of the Japanese. Since war broke out and Russia began to suffer disasters, Viceroy ALEXIEFF has seen General Kuropatkin appointed to supreme military command, and the unfortunate Admiral MAKAROFF to command of the fleet, the latter's death in battle being followed by the appointment of Admiral SKRYDLOFF. He sees on one side of him General Kuropatkin, with whom his relations are not quite smooth, and on the other Admiral SKRYDLOFF, notoriously hostile, as we are told. So there remains to him but a civil position on which to keep up his high-sounding title of Viceroy. Nemesis has indeed overtaken him rapidly for his arrogance and his failure to grasp the situation. Since he came out to the Far East he has striven, with all the resources of Russian diplomacy and with the weight of his trusting Government behind him, to gain for Russia a position in North-east Asia from which she could dictate her terms instead of working, as in the past, by the aid of evasions and unsubstantiated promises. Whether he has actually dealt a death-blow to his country's hopes in this quarter of the world remains to be seen, but at least he has involved Russia in a war opening with humiliation and likely to end, at the very best, in a tremendous set-back to all progress, as well as in financial loss not easily estimated. The fault, of course, is partly that of those who singled out Admiral ALEXIEFF for so responsible a post—what, in Dr. DILLON'S words, "set a blacksmith who is honest and industrious to repair a lady's watch." But that those who appointed him were deceived in him does not exonerate him from the charge of gross folly in misreading Japan's intentions as he did. It may be with the best intentions that he has betrayed his country; but there is no doubt of the fact of the betrayal. Not even a crushing land victory for Russia, complete enough to terminate the war, could justify him now.

To-day is St. George's Day.

The French mail of the 22nd March was delivered in London on the 21st inst.

Eighty-seven Army details arrived by the P. & O. s.s. *Chusan* yesterday.

Mr. S. John Brodick has decided against the abolition of Cooper's Hill Engineering College.

The Chinese *Hongkong* reached its 1,000th performance at the Strand Theatre, London, last month.

Professor Simpson has gone out to Johannesburg, where there has been a serious outbreak of plague in the coolie location.

It was reported yesterday that a Chinese woman was found at Kowloon City wharf removing a Chinese corpse, dead from plague.

According to *Sport and Gossip*, Mr. Alec March is contemplating another visit to Shanghai at no very distant date. He is at present, as we announced recently, in India.

From the particulars given in the Civil Service Estimates for the coming financial year we learn provision is made for new British Consuls at Moukden, Antung, and Kungming.

The shipments of Ceylon tea to Russia, says the *Times* of Ceylon, are continuing merrily, and whatever hardships the Russians may have to undergo in consequence of the war, they won't suffer in their tea.

Major Sir Matthew Nathan, B.E., our new Governor, was among those present to bid farewell to Sir John Anderson at Victoria Station on the 24th ult., on his departure to take up the Governorship of the Straits Settlements.

Seven robbers armed with rifles and daggers have attacked the branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank at Bokhara, on the Transcaspian Railway, wounding three persons, including the manager, but getting no booty.

According to an English missionary who arrived at Gensan from the north of Corea there are indications that Coreans in the region lying to the north of Hamhung are organising with the purpose of opposing the Japanese.

Not long ago, the *Globe* records, a heavy load of old iron was being carried in a cart down the Strand. The lumbering vehicle blocked the traffic, and the British "bus-driver" began to search eagerly in his mind for some suitable comment. At last he found one. "Nah, then," he said, with asperity, "get on there with yer Russian Navy."

The first consignments of building material for the new floating dock at Kiochoa have left Germany. The dock will consist of five separate pontoons, with a total loading capacity of 16,000 tons, and will be able to accommodate the largest battleship in the German Navy, as well as the big liners of the Hamburg and Bremen Steamship Companies.

A writer in a paper just to hand points out that with Japan holding Port Arthur in strength and England holding Weihaiwei in similar strength the integrity of China would be assured in spite of all other Powers.

According to Indian frontier advice, the Russian reverses are the principal topic in Afghanistan. The Amir, lately reviewing his regiments, referred eloquently to the success of Japan, and expressed the hope that his army would give a similar account of themselves if necessity arose.

We have received from the *Kobe Chronicle* office Part I. of *A Diary of the Russo-Japanese War*, with maps and illustrations, which is now in its second edition, and from the *Kobe Herald* office an illustrated War Supplement, also well illustrated. Both are excellent productions and give a good idea of the enterprise of our Kobe contemporaries.

On the 24th ult. Dr. Macnamara asked in the House of Commons what regulations were to be proposed for the treatment of the children of coolies in the Transvaal on reaching 16 years of age. Mr. Lyttelton said: No regulations appear to be necessary, seeing that no children over 10 will be introduced, and the labourer cannot remain for more than six years.

Captain Percy Scott, who, under special Admiralty instructions, has been engaged at Gibraltar in connection with some extensive gunnery trials which have been carried out by the *Victorious*, first-class battleship, flying the flag of Rear-Admiral the Hon. Hedworth Lambton, returned to Portsmouth last month and resumed the command of the Naval Gunnery School of that port.

In the House of Commons on the 24th ult. in answer to Mr. Weir, Earl Percy said His Majesty's Consul-General at Canton reported on the 5th October that the Viceroy had instructed the Hoppe to immediately request the Commissioner of Customs to take the necessary steps for carrying out the provisions of the treaty; and a preliminary survey of the harbour has been made by a Chinese Revenue cutter with a view to the removal of obstructions. His Majesty's Government have received no further report.

British and American authors and publishers continue to flood the market with books on Japan and China. Among them we notice one called *Opium and Missionaries in China* by Mr. Arthur Davenport. The writer's object is to point out the injury inflicted on our prestige through the widespread allegation that "we have forced opium on China." He also suggests a total change in our present method of missionary propaganda, which, he contends, has produced rebellion and fatal riots, followed by wholesale reprisals by foreigners, alike in Manchuria and China.

It seems certain now that the threatened deportation from Tientsin of Mr. Cowen, Editor of the *China Times*, has been abandoned, as Mr. Cowen has resumed the editorship. The *Kobe Chronicle* makes the following comment: "Though the accused in such a case does not seem to have any right of appeal under the Orders in Council, such a sentence must be reviewed by the Chief Justice at Shanghai, and only on his approval can it go into operation. Presumably the Chief Justice has not approved, and the matter will be allowed to drop. If our surmise is correct, the condition that such sentences passed by a Provincial Court must be reviewed by the Judge of the Supreme Court has proved a real safeguard to the freedom of the English Press in China."

The most furious man in America on the day that Japan's first great naval victory over Russia was announced was Richard Mansfield, says an American contemporary. Until the war cloud assumed serious proportions Mr. Mansfield had about decided to postpone his production of the Russian play *Ivan the Terrible* until next season. But when war became assured, and the immediate victory of the Russians, in Mr. Mansfield's mind, became a foregone conclusion, he determined to rush the Russian play to the front of his repertoire at once. Now, when the play is all ready for production, Mr. Mansfield has suddenly discovered that the Japanese are not only in the ascendant, but that the sympathy aroused throughout the country is so great that unless *Ivan the Terrible* turns out to be a really great and absorbing drama its chances of popularity have been seriously handicapped.

By kind permission of Major Radcliff and officers, the Band of the 13rd Borneo Infantry will play at the Hongkong Hotel from 8 to 9.30 p.m. to-night. Programme:—

March....."Field Service".....O. d. Hume
Overture....."Zampa".....Herold
Selection....."The Runaway Girl".....Ivan Caryll
Concert Solo....."Eileen Aishann".....Thomas
Selection....."Reminiscences of England".....Godfrey
Waltz....."Valse".....Kirby
Intermezzo....."Pendant le Bal".....Gillet
"God Save the King".....Gillet

MENU.

Hors D'Oeuvre
Caviare and Egg Canapés
SOUP
Ox Tail
FISH
Boiled Garoupa, Sauce Hollandaise
Grilled Snipe on Toast
Rolled Fillets of Veal a l'Italienne
Egg Croquettes
CURRY
COGNAC
Roast Sirloin of Beef
Roast Capon and Pigeon
Boiled Leg of Mutton and Turnips
Cold Bœuf O Tongues
SWEETS
Tapioca and Apple Fudding
Diplomate Ice Cream and Finger Cakes
Trenche Tart
Topsy Cake
DESSERT
Coffee
Fruits.

An Odessa telegram to the *Standard*, dated the 17th March, says:—It is semi-officially announced that the interruption to the Russo-Chinese tea trade by land and sea will not very largely enhance the price of that article to the Russian consumer, as measures have been taken for keeping up the supply as nearly as possible to its normal standard. This year and next the China teas for Russia will come through London. Arrangements have already been made for the import, through the British Metropolitan port, of ninety million pounds of China tea. Whatever gap there may be in the China supply will be made up by the increased import of Ceylon and Indian teas.

The London *Daily Mail* has been enlightening its readers as to the heavy cost of war news. Although the rate for Press cables is now 1s. 11d. a word, as compared with 7s. 6d. a word for ordinary messages, a London newspaper, it says, often finds its cabling bill for the week's war news amounting to £1,200, and this irrespective of the amounts paid to various agencies, such as Reuters. The *Mail* mentions that the special correspondent of a London morning journal cabled an important message to his paper recently which cost nearly £200, and that amount was literally thrown into the waste-paper basket as the Japanese Legation had previously supplied the paper with practically the same message.

Mr. J. Shearman, third officer of the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Candia*, was last month presented with the Stanhope gold medal by Mr. H. H. Joseph, General Manager of the Company, on behalf of the Royal Humane Society. The presentation took place on board the steamship *Arabia*, at Tilbury Dock, in the presence of the whole of the ship's officers and crew and of various officials. The Stanhope gold medal is awarded by the Society in recognition of what is adjudged to be the greatest act of heroism performed during the year. Mr. Shearman, while fourth officer of the *Malacca*, leaped overboard one night in the China Sea, during a heavy sea and with a strong tide running, and rescued one of the ship's quarter-masters, who had fallen overboard.

With regard to the new U. S. War Secretary, an American correspondent sends an interesting letter on the personality of Mr. Taft and his work in the Philippines, which he thinks could not fail to attract attention at home. When a vacancy occurred in the Supreme Court of the United States President Roosevelt tendered the position to Governor Taft, who refused it. When he finally agreed to accept the War Office appointment the only way of satisfying the demands of the islanders was through the assurance that, though he would be at home, he would be at the head of the department vested with the duty of choosing his own successor and in control of the work which he had organised and carried out.

NAVAL NOTES.

H.M.S. *Esperanza*, Comdr. E. G. Barton, has returned from Weihaiwei.
Yesterday afternoon the British fleet returned from Mids Bay, the vessels being the battleships *Glory*, *Albion*, *Ocean*, *Vengeance*, and *Centurion*, the cruisers *Talbot*, *Cressy*, and *Amphitrite*, and the despatch-boat *Alacrity*.

Capt. Greet, who is taking over command of the *Ocean*, vice Rear-Admiral Foote, arrived from England by the P. & O. s.s. *Chusan* yesterday.

The Chinese gun-boat *Chan Feng*, yesterday passed through Hongkong Harbour, on her way from San Sze Mun to Canton.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

This afternoon at Happy Valley the first Meeting of the Hongkong Gymkhana Club will be held, commencing at 4 o'clock. A capital programme has been drawn up, and as the events have filled well good sport is assured. There are in all six races—the Grantham Cup, the East Point Cup, the Jibban Cup, Polo Pony Scoury, the Gymkhana Club Challenge Cup, and the Primrose Cup. Mr. F. H. Lyons, R.N., will act as clerk of the scales, Mr. H. P. White as judge, Mr. G. C. C. Master as starter, Mr. W. W. G. Ross as second starter, and Mr. J. L. Michael as time-keeper, while the secretarial duties fall upon Mr. F. B. Deacon. The band of the Sherwood Foresters will play a programme of music, and given good weather the Gymkhana should be a great success.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT AT THE THEATRE.

By kind permission of Rear-Admiral von Holtendorff, the Band of the *Hansa* gave an orchestral concert in the Theatre last night. This is the second occasion this season on which a Band from a German warship visiting the port has given an orchestral concert in the Theatre, and the *Hansa*'s band was favoured last night with a full house. An excellent programme was provided embracing selections from the works of Weber, Schumann, Gounod, Czibulka, Brahms, Schubert, Wagner and Stuart. We do not know that the *Hansa*'s Band has given a concert before in the Colony, but it is safe to say that they will be welcomed by lovers of music in the Colony whenever they are visiting Hongkong again. The entire programme was played in first-class style and each item it was evident was keenly enjoyed by the audience. In acknowledgement of the enthusiastic appreciation of the audience, two or three extra pieces were played, the concert being brought to a close shortly after eleven with a few bars of the British national anthem.

TELEGRAMS.

"DAILY PRESS" SERVICE.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

THE BELGIAN ROYAL LAWSUIT.

KING LEOPOLD WINS.

LONDON, 21st Ap., 11 a.m.

The Brussels Tribunal yesterday refused the application of the Princesses Louise and Stephanie against their father, King Leopold.

[Particulars of this lawsuit will be found in another column.—ED. D.P.]

REUTER'S SERVICE.

THE BUDGET.

LONDON, 20th April.

The Tea resolution was adopted after an amendment by Mr. Lough in favour of 6d. per pound, which was rejected by 235 to 193. The additional duty on Tobacco was also adopted by 200 to 106. The newspapers generally receive the Budget most favourably, but the Conservative organs simultaneously insist on the urgent necessity for reducing the national expenditure, especially in view of the income tax. The *Daily News* vehemently denounces the increased duty on Tea.

ADMIRAL ALEXIEFF'S RESIGNATION.

LONDON, 20th April.

Admiral Alexieff has resigned finding himself practically superseded except in Civil affairs. Moreover the appointment of Admiral Skrydloff, who is notoriously hostile to Admiral Alexieff, was made without consulting him.

THE TIBET EXPEDITION.

LONDON, 20th April.

The House of Lords has adopted a resolution authorising the Tibet expedition.

WAR NOTES.

THE COSSACKS.

A Japanese officer, who has had a chance of meeting the Cossacks in North Corea, has recently forwarded the following report to the Government. The Cossacks do not carry any baggage. They eat fowls raw and even candles when hungry. The Coreans are surprised by the primitive state of living of the Cossacks. The Cossacks wear overcoats of soft leather lined with sheepskin, and often camp outside of cottages, without going inside. They might almost be likened to wild beasts. They fly like shepherds, and lie down in the field. They can therefore travel fifty miles a day without difficulty, and it is hard work to capture them. Their horses are often fed with rice instead of proper food. The speed of the horses is not much superior to that of the Japanese horses; but the Cossacks can travel faster than the Japanese over the hills, through forests and over rough country. The Cossacks are timid, more afraid of death than was expected. This view has been confirmed by several reports received from scouts. During the engagement at Teishu on the 28th ult. the Cossacks were fully aware of the inferior position of the Japanese, but they utterly failed to take the aggressive. After two hours' firing they retreated suddenly on seeing the advance of the Japanese Infantry. Lieutenant Yugami with twenty men was able to hold his position against seventy or eighty Russians during the engagement. This may be regarded as proof of the Japanese soldiers' courage; but on the other hand it shows the Cossacks' lack of a warlike spirit.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

THE SWIMMING SEASON.

Members of the V.R.C. have recommenced swimming. At low-water one has to be rather brave to tackle the somewhat doubtful odour of rotten seaweed in the basin, but there is always good plunging to be had on the off side of the pier. Water-polo, of course, will soon take the place of beating. As a matter of fact, although there is a scratch four-oared race on the 30th, it is sometimes difficult to muster crews now. Tennis attractions on the Hongkong side are in some measure responsible for this, but, anyhow, the weather is becoming warmer daily, and splashing is really already in season. There is to be a good "smoker," we are told, at the gymnasium to-night, an amount of local talent contributing. The performance commences at 9 p.m. sharp, and a late ferry, from Kowloon to Hongkong, will run at 12.15 a.m. Shortly, perhaps, there will be children's races, as it will be remembered, the weather prevented them at the recent V.R.C. Athletic Sports.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—
On the 22nd, at 11.30 a.m. The barometer has risen in Japan, where the greatest pressure is now found, and fallen in China.
A depression has been formed in Northern China, and for the present the monsoon is interrupted upon the China Coast.
Light variable winds will be met with in the Formosa Channel, and light E. to S.E. winds will prevail in the northern part of the China Sea.
Forecast:—Light E. winds; overcast, dull.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SMOKE NUISANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 21st April.

SIR,—It is satisfactory to see that the Sanitary Board is taking steps to abate the smoke nuisance. Dense volumes of black smoke should not be allowed to be discharged from almost every smoke-stack in the Colony. It is unnecessary, and can be avoided. Such being the case, it is intolerable that in the neighbourhood of smoke-stacks the atmosphere should be so charged with particles of unoxidised carbon as not only to render the necessary process of respiration an extremely unpleasant one, but frequently to almost shut from view the surrounding scenery. With properly constructed furnaces, and when so constructed properly used, this nuisance would be abated; in fact it should be absolutely stopped. Faulty construction of the furnaces, bad stoking, and passing too much air through the grate, are mainly responsible for the emission of black smoke—in other words, of particles of carbon which have not been oxidised in the furnace and are allowed to flow out of the chimney, to become a nuisance to the neighbourhood. By using Welsh smokeless coal, and by exercising sufficient supervision at the furnace to see that rational stoking is employed, there will be no smoke nuisance, provided the furnace is properly constructed. If smokeless coal is unobtainable liquid fuel could be used, and, if sprayed into the furnace intelligently, by means of an apparatus such as Holden's liquid fuel injector (the cost of which is not great), practically no unoxidised carbon would leave the smoke-stack. Liquid fuel can, I believe, be had in abundance and at a lower price than even Japanese coal, unit for unit of calorific power. There is another means of abating the smoke nuisance, viz., by drawing off the gases of combustion and forcing them through a water-spray by means of a properly constructed fan situated in the exit flue of the furnace. By this means the unoxidised particles of carbon, as well as the light particles of ash, are washed out of the escaping gases, and a clear chimney top is the result. The smoke nuisance can be abated, and I sincerely hope that the Sanitary Board will not rest until every smoke-stack over which they have jurisdiction will have ceased to belch forth black smoke.—I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,
Z.

BAND PERFORMANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Kowloon, 21st April.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Semibreve" is worthy of support in his suggestion that we ought to have a Town Band in Hongkong, and possibly he may be right when he says that, in comparison with Shanghai, Singapore, and Manila, things are greatly mismanaged here. On the supposition that the proposed Town Band would be a good one it would undoubtedly be a great acquisition and supply a long-felt public want. Meanwhile, in the absence of the Town Band, the services of the various military bands in the Colony are gratuitously given by the kindness of the military authorities. "Semibreve" is apparently ignorant of the fact that these bands are supported mainly by the officers of the regiment, and that the "hand-some sums" which the "languid and weary taxpayers disgorge" are devoted to a military and not to a musical object. It might be well to point out to the benefit of this correspondent that the tone of his letter and his regrets that he is dependent on "the whims of gold-laced officers" are hardly calculated to promote a continuance of the kindness hitherto shown.—Yours, etc.

MILES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 22nd April.

SIR,—I have just read the miserable defence of your correspondent "Gold Lace," and am hardly surprised that the facts I submitted should not have met with his approval. Anybody with ordinary intelligence is thoroughly aware of the fact that the instruments and music of a military band are furnished from the private funds of officers, but it is equally undeniable that the men who comprise the strength of a military band are in the pay and service of the State, and not in those of the officers, hence if it is a privilege that officers think they are conferring by permitting their hands to play in public, none the less it is a privilege that they are allowed by the State to enjoy the exclusive services of these men. Hongkong at the present moment is equipped with no less than four military bands, and it is a disgrace that a whole community should find themselves at the mercy of a handful of officers.—Yours faithfully,
SEMIBREVE.

[With reference to this correspondence on "Band Performances," we should prefer that the writers would express their views with less acrimony. As it is, we have decided to withhold one letter and omit a few lines in one of those published above. Abuse is not argument.—ED. D.P.]

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

BLAKE SHIELD COMPETITION.

Practice for this competition will be held on the range to-day at 2.30 p.m. The following are likely to compete:—Capt. Skinner, Lieut. Lamert, Lieut. Scott, Sergt.-Major Rodger, Sergt.-Major McKenzie, Sergt. Terrill, Sergt. Gloyd, Sergt. Andrew, Corp. Gidley, Bomb. McCormac, Bomb. Stephenson, Gun. Horley, Gun. Grimshaw, Gun. A. Watson, Gun. Crosbie. There will be a handicap competition for Spoons presented by Capt. Skinner if a sufficient number are present.

BELGIAN ROYAL LAWSUIT.

VERDICT FOR KING LEOPOLD.

As will be seen from a telegram in another column, the tribunal which has sat in the Belgian Royal lawsuit has refused the application of Princess Stephanie and Princess Louise with reference to the late Queen's will. The hearing of the case commenced at the beginning of last month and finished on the 15th ult.

The object of the action was to decide whether King Leopold and the late Queen were married under the law of the community of property or otherwise. The applicants claimed that the Queen's estate should include half the King's fortune. King Leopold, however, claimed that the marriage took place under the law of the *separation des biens*. In other words, that the succession of the Queen should only comprise such property as was hers prior to her marriage.

Princess Stephanie declared that the King had officially announced his intention to disinherit her completely, and that he has left her without means, having for several months ceased to pay her pension. She averred that the menace of disinheritance appeared to attach blame to her coming from a father and a sovereign, and could not be submitted to in silence. Princess Louise, who has enormous debts, was also a party in the suit, which indeed was forced forward by the claims of the two Princesses' creditors.

The following are extracts from the will of her late Majesty which were read in Court:—
"My personal property, coming from my father, my dowry, and the inheritance of my mother and my grandmother, of Wurtemberg, are to be divided according to Belgian law, into four parts: one for each of my three daughters, the fourth remaining at my disposal. According to my marriage contract, I also should have the right to dispose of my dowry—200,000 Austrian florins. I have not touched one centime either of this money or the interest. I affirm that all my attempts to trace this dowry have been fruitless."

Counsel for Princess Stephanie, in addressing the Court said she owed it to her dignity to claim her portion, not for the money's sake, but to vindicate her position as a Royal daughter who would not submit to being treated as an outcast. The Emperor of Austria had not discarded her. King Leopold was only moved by mercenary motives and by hatred of his own flesh and blood compelling his daughter to sue him for alimony. The King violated the principles of the law with the complicity of the nation in giving away to the nation family properties in which his children should share. The latter had been robbed for the profit of the State. Her only crime after the terrible experience of a marriage with Archduke Rudolph was to marry a less exalted and more honourable man. For this her Royal father in his pride punished her, disinherited her, and gave her property away to the nation.

The King's defence was that the marriage contract between him and his father-in-law, the Emperor of Austria, constituted a political and international act, and the judicial authority of Belgium could not pronounce it null and void.

POLICE COURT.

Friday, 22nd April.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ
(ACTING POLICE MAGISTRATE).

SEVEN MEN DISCHARGED.

Seven junk-men were charged on remand with unlawful possession of 24 bags of sugar. Mr. Paget Hett, solicitor, appeared for the defence, and the men were discharged.

A COOLIE'S FAREWELL.

Three coolies bound to South Africa, where they hope to make a fortune at the mines, were charged with assaulting a woman at Yaumati, being jealous of another man. They were fined \$10 apiece.

FAILING TO REGISTER.

A Chinaman was charged with keeping three emigrants without registering them. He was fined \$10 an emigrant, or \$30 in all.

BEFORE MR. J. H. KEMP (SECOND
POLICE MAGISTRATE).

"OVERBOARDING AT THE HONGKONG CLUB."

An occupant of No. 259, Des Vaux Road West was charged with keeping a boarding house and not registering it as such. Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, of Mr. John Hastings's office, appeared for the defence. He explained that defendant, his partners in business, their sons, shop-assistants, etc., lived above the shop, this being Chinese custom. If this could be taken as overboarding—in a three-story house, too—many European residences, and even the Hongkong Club, would be liable. Legislation was required to amend this ordinance, or it would act as a hardship on many respectable families, Chinese and European.

Mr. Kemp said he would inflict the nominal fine of \$1, if defendant desired to keep so many people on his premises he should register the place as a boarding-house.

Mr. Goldring said his client would shut up shop first; he hoped the ordinance would be amended.

A \$500 FINE.

To Ling admitted possessing 32 taels of opium, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$500. She did so without any hesitation, handing over five \$100 notes.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR THE RAND.

TERMS OF CONTRACT.

The actual form of contract for the enlistment of Chinese labourers for the Rand mines has not yet been published by the Home Government, but the general terms can be gathered from the prospectuses which have been and are being scattered broadcast over the China coast. Until the form fixed upon arrives here there cannot of course be any enrolment of labourers, but we understand that the agencies already established are all in readiness to take on coolies, of whom there is an unlimited number available, as soon as the contract forms are sanctioned by Government have arrived from England.

The prospectuses above mentioned bear that the engagement is for three years from the date of the labourer's arrival. The employer will transport him free of cost by land or sea providing accommodation, food, and medical attendance as required by British laws; a reasonable supply of clothes and other private effects to be carried free of cost. During the engagement employer provides housing, food, and medical attendance free of all charge. At the conclusion of his term the labourer will be transported back whence he came free of cost, and other conditions as before. If the labourer wishes to renew his engagement he can do so in such manner and for such period as the laws provide, and at the end of his extended term he is entitled to free passage home, etc.

The rate of pay is 25/- per calendar month; the day's work not to exceed ten hours, and the labourer not to be compelled to work on Sundays and various Chinese festival days (seven in all) except as overtime. As soon as the labourers arrive at the mines a system of piece-work will be arranged for most kinds of work, and the labourer will have a choice of being paid thus or on a fixed wage system. The piece-work payment will be fixed on such a scale that a really efficient and industrious workman will be able to earn more than 25/- per month, and the best as much as 50/-.

If a labourer is unable to work through sickness he will not get paid for the days he is off but will continue to receive free food and housing. Should a labourer refuse to work or become permanently unable to work from any cause, the employer will be allowed to terminate the engagement, but will be bound to transport him to China. Should he become permanently disabled by an accident incurred in the employer's service, not through his own fault, the employer shall pay to him as compensation 50/-, to be handed to him on landing in China. Should a labourer die from accident under similar conditions, the employer shall pay to his representative (to be named in the contract) the sum of 100/-.

In the event of the labourer dying during his engagement his remains will be buried decently on land according to Chinese custom. If the labourers desire to form societies among themselves for the purpose of embalming or otherwise preserving the bodies of any of their number who may die and send them back to China, every assistance and facility within the power of the employers will be given to these societies, and the body will be transported free of cost to China.

The labourer shall be entitled to make an allotment of his wages to be paid in China to his family or representative, the amount and the name of the resiver to be stated on the contract. This allotment the employer undertakes payment of in China, the first payment to be made at the end of the first month after the labourer's arrival in the Transvaal and the subsequent payments monthly as long as the labourer continues to be employed, no change in this arrangement to be made but by mutual consent. The employer undertakes to advance to each labourer before starting the sum of \$30 for purposes of outfit, making provision for his family, etc., which sum he will have to repay within six months from the date of his commencing work.

CHURCH SERVICES.

S. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL.
April 24th; 1st Sunday after Easter.
Holy Communion (7.30 a.m.)
Matins (11.0 a.m.)

Responses, Tallis; Venite, Norell; Psalms, Camidge, Kinkead and Travers; Te Deum, Steggall; in G; Benedicite, Prentice; in G; Anthem, "O how lovely are Thy dwellings" Barnby; Hymns, 32, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

S. PETER'S CHURCH.
Queen's Road West.
Matins (11 a.m.)
Venite, Smart; Te Deum, Gregory; Benedicite, Smart; Hymns, 91, 485, 593, and 594.
Evangelist (6.30 p.m.)
Magnificat, Turle; Nunc Dimittis, Jones; Hymns, 105, 491, 54, and 592.
Holy Communion, 7.45 p.m.

The Church launch *Dwysing* will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services, between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m., and between 5.15 and 6 p.m. (Kowloon Police Pier 10.30 and 6 p.m.) returning afterwards. The Answering Bells are the call flag. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome, books, etc., provided. Sunday School 10-10.45 a.m.

GOPEL HALL.
Arsenal Street, Top Floor, of Queen's Road East.

Meetings are held as follows:—Sunday—Acts 2, 42, 11 a.m.; Gospel Address, 6 p.m. Tuesday—Soldiers' and Sailors' Bible Class 6 p.m. Thursday—General Bible Class, 6 p.m. Sunday—Prayer Meeting, at 9 p.m.

THE "PEDLARS' GUILD."

In an account of the recent attack on the house in Seoul of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which was instigated by the Pedlars' Guild, the *Korea Review*, referring to that society, says the past few weeks have witnessed almost its dying gasp. Our contemporary points out that what was once a simple mercantile society composed of travelling merchants or pedlars, has been transformed and corrupted into a so-called pedlars' guild which was in truth a gang of desperadoes who under cover of the name "private police" were prepared to do any dirty work that unscrupulous officials in high places saw fit to give them. "They have been the most dangerous element in Seoul all these weeks," continues the *Review*, "and the only anxiety of the foreigners in Seoul was lest this gang of hoodlums should break out in some manner before the arrival of Japanese troops. Now that the Japanese are in power here they have caused a royal edict to be promulgated doing away with the Pedlars' Guild. This naturally was not pleasant to the pedlars and they began plotting against the officials who had injured them. A few weeks ago a man armed with a sword climbed the wall of the Foreign Minister's house and searched the place, but as the Minister was fortunately spending the night elsewhere the assassin could not find him. Enraged at his failure, the felon struck the door-sill of the Minister's private room a vicious blow with his sword and then decamped. The same night three other houses were attacked with explosive bombs, but the material with which they were charged was of such poor quality that they could do little damage. Since that time it has been found out that the ringleaders in these cowardly assaults were—officials who lately held high power on the Russian side of the fence, and at the present moment these men are being sought for and arrested as rapidly as possible. It is certain that when the Russians were influential in Seoul they used the very worst elements in the Government and among the people to effect their ends. The real head of this Pedlars' Guild was an official high in the favour of the Russians."

JAPANESE VIEWS AND AIMS.

Baron Suyematsu, who, as our London correspondent announced last month, is on a visit to England, has explained his views to a representative of Reuters's agency. First he said:—"I am not here on any definite mission. I have come to England for reasons of health and again to visit scenes with which I was familiar many years ago, but if I can be of any service to my country by explaining her position at this juncture I shall be very glad." Speaking of Japan's financial position, the Baron said:—"Although we are not so rich as the Great Powers of Europe we can carry on this war with our own money for some years. If a loan be obtainable it will benefit the financial arrangements of the Government and will enable us to make improvements in different directions and to promote public works. But whether a foreign loan be obtainable or not, it will make no difference to the prosecution of the war. We are not waging this war for the purpose of material gain, and, if successful, we have no intention of enlarging our territory. If Russia be beaten we have no intention to take Manchuria. This is far from our desire, which is that Manchuria shall be an integral part of the Chinese Empire. With regard to the railway, its future state will depend upon circumstances, but if Japan is successful, it is clear that the line will be useless to Russia for military purposes. It is difficult to speak of what may happen, and I cannot say what will be the future of such a gigantic country as Russia. All I can say with certainty is that we shall do our work in such a way as to secure peace for at least some decades."

Asked for his views regarding the position of Japan among the nations, Baron Suyematsu remarked:—"I have seen a good deal written about the possibility or necessity of Japan adopting Christianity together with Western methods, but the religious aspect of the matter I do not care to discuss. What is called the Yellow Peril seems to me to be a kind of nightmare. For the past thirty or forty years our efforts have been directed to assimilating European ideas and European modern civilization, and to the eradication of race feelings. In other words, we have sought to make brotherhood with Occidentals, and to adopt their modes of thought and reason. Of course, by this I do not mean that we intend to relinquish our national existence; but if with this the Occidental Powers take us into their brotherhood that is the end of our aspiration. On this matter we feel very grateful to England, who took the first step by giving us a place in international comity by the revision of the Treaties, and subsequently by the sympathy she has shown us from time to time, and especially at this moment. We believe that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is beneficial for both countries. It benefits England inasmuch as she knows that Japan can be relied on to carry out in the Far East a policy common to both countries. It benefits Japan because our interests are identical with those of our ally. We have done nothing unjust in the present crisis, and we are determined to pursue the policy on which we have embarked and can confidently ask for sympathy in what the future may bring us. But we do not ask for anything more than sympathy. We want no assistance with arms, but without the sympathy of the civilised nations we do not expect to attain our ends. Therefore, we are determined to carry on this war strictly in the sense of modern civilisation."

KIAOCHAU.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The recent opening to traffic of the whole railway line from Tsintau to Tientsin, the provincial capital of Shantung, a distance of 230 miles, and the approaching completion of the large harbour in Kiaochau Bay offer the brightest prospects for the development of the trade and shipping of Shantung and its new port. Indeed, the growing importance of the improved harbour is well established by the statistical abstracts published by the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs. The transit of dutiable goods at Tsintau rose, during the year ending on the 31st September last, to 17½ millions Mex. dollars, as against 9½ millions in the two previous years, showing an increase of not less than 81 per cent. As the railway has only just now reached the centre of the silk growing district of the Shantung peninsula, a further large increase in the value of exported goods may be safely anticipated. As regards heavy traffic, coal will soon form an important item, the daily output at the mines having risen from 100 tons in September to 260 tons in December. In the shipping returns the extraordinary advance of the Japanese and English flags is most remarkable. The former was principally brought about by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha running, with a subvention from the Imperial Japanese Government, a regular line of mail steamers from Kobe to Tsintau, bringing the number of Japanese steamers up to 41 against 9 in the previous year. The English flag is now chiefly represented by the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., running, since November, 1903, a regular weekly line between Shanghai and Tsintau. Until now, the Hamburg-American Line had the lion's share in the North-China Coast traffic for the German port; about 67 per cent. of the whole shipping belonging to this single company. Its steamers were also the first that plied directly between the Bund at Tientsin and Tsintau harbour.

If we look at the Customs Returns of non-Chinese wares, we notice in some articles an increase of more than a hundred per cent. over the imports of the previous year. Thus, e.g. the weight of cotton yarns, that paid duty at the Tsintau Chinese Customs, rose from 58,054 piculs to 127,136 piculs; needles, from 33,930 to 75,163 thousand; matches, from 321,797 to 732,498 gross; raw cotton, from 13,275 to 35,138 piculs. Japan especially has been able to get her fair share in this rapid advance. The value of her imports, amounting to 651,760 yen in 1901, and 1,626,431 yen in the whole of 1902, was in the period of only eight months, from January to August 1903, entered at 2,323,195 yen worth of dutiable manufactured goods. On the side of the exports, besides coal, silk and bean-oil show the largest increase. From the Report of the German Government we gather that the harbour has led to a flourishing building industry, and that all legal and economical conditions for a large Real Estate Investment Banking Corporation doing profitable business are now existent.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth say in their weekly share report, dated Hongkong, 22nd April, 1904.—During the past week a good general enquiry has continued to prevail and a fair volume of business has been transacted in most of our principal stocks at advancing rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled firm, and fair sales have been effected at the improved rate of 95½, at which a few more shares are obtainable. London has advanced to 464. Nationals have continued in request, and sales have been booked at 836.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue in demand and 5520 is now offered without attracting sellers. China Traders have sold and can still be placed at 860. Yungtong are wanted at 8135 and Cantons at the improved rate of 8185.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongtongs have sold and are in further request at 8290. Chinas have been booked at 853½ and close with probable buyers at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have again been booked at 828½ and 829 and more shares are required for. Indo-China advanced during the early part of the week to 897, but are somewhat easier at the close with sellers at 896, buyers at 895. China and Manila continue on offer at 821½. Douglases after sales at 835½ and 836 are required for at 836½. Star Ferries have advanced and can now be placed at 832 and 820 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports have sold at 22½ and 22 and close steady.

RENTS.—China Sugar has continued to advance, and after sales at 8123 to 8128 are in further demand at the higher rate. Leases continue neglected at 810 sellers.

MINING.—No business is reported under this head. Raub close weak with sellers at 86.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have firmed up and now close in request at 8268 after sales at 8206 and 8207 for cash and the settlement. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves show a further advance, sales having been effected at from 896 to 8100, the market closing steady at the latter rate. New Amoy Docks have receded to 832½, however, there are buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at 8147 and close somewhat firmer with buyers at 8148. Kowloon Lands are unchanged at 835. West Points are required for at 852. Hongkong Hotels continue steady with probable sellers at 8132. Humphreys's Estates are in request at 810½ and 813 for the old and new issues respectively. Shanghai Lands have improved in the North to 1150.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations are unchanged, and no business is reported in this section.

MISC. LIXIVIOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at 222½. China Boronics have improved to 884 buyers. Watsons have sold and are in further request at 814½. Electricities have buyers at 813 and 87 for the old and new issues respectively. Dairy Farms have improved to 813 buyers and United Asbestos (ordinary) to 894 after sales at 89. China Providents have been booked at 88.90 and 89.20, the latter closing in further request.

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Hongkong, 10th March, 1904.

PRESS CORRESPONDENTS
IN THE FIELD.

The following regulations for Press correspondents in the field have been issued and a translation published in English by the First Japanese Army Headquarters:—

Art. I.—All the Press correspondents with this Army shall act according to these regulations.

Art. II.—The general affairs concerning Press correspondents shall be under the management of Adjutants, and their supervision and the inspection of their correspondence shall be under the Staff Department.

Lodging and subsistence of Press correspondents in the field shall be directed by the Quartermaster.

Art. III.—Press correspondents shall be commanded by the supervising officer, obey the orders of this Army Headquarters, and act according to the instructions given by it.

Art. IV.—Press correspondents should look and behave decently and should never do anything disorderly.

Art. V.—Press correspondents should take care not to do anything harmful to the troops and never enter the office-rooms of the Headquarters.

Art. VI.—When thought necessary by the Army Headquarters, Press correspondents may be attached to some of the Army's detachments, in which case Press correspondents shall be commanded by the commander of that detachment or by the supervising officer and obey his orders.

Art. VII.—Press correspondents shall not go into the battle-field except at the time and place shown by the supervising officer or the detachment commander.

Art. VIII.—All the correspondence of Press correspondents (including their reports, private letters, telegrams, etc.) must be inspected by the supervising officer before sending.

The supervising officer, after inspecting such correspondence, shall seal (if enveloped) and stamp "passed inspection" upon the envelope, the note-paper, or the telegraphic application paper, and then give it back to the sender.

The name of the correspondent and of the Press he represents, must always be written on the envelope or the front page of the report.

Art. IX.—Correspondence without the inspector's stamp is not allowed.

Art. X.—Correspondence in a foreign language may in some cases be requested to be accompanied by a Japanese translation, or the kind of language to be used may be limited.

Art. XI.—Correspondents must pay particular attention to the following items:

1. Things liable to disturb the public peace or to discredit the troops should not be written.

2. Only the facts of the past may be written in regard to the actions of the troops and never the things to happen in future or of mere supposition.

3. Strength of our troops, their number, their locations, and the time and place of despatching correspondence must not be written unless it is allowed by the supervising officer.

Art. XII.—One representative shall be chosen each among the Japanese and the foreign correspondents. These representatives are to go between the Headquarters and the correspondents in regard to matters concerning the correspondents in general.

Art. XIII.—These regulations are to be applied to the interpreters and servants of Press correspondents.

SHIPPING NOTES.

WEATHER.

H.M.S. *Epigee*, experienced moderate monsoon between Weihaiwei and Hongkong. The *Hongkong* from the Straits reports fine weather to the Far East, thence to port from monsoon and heavy weather. The *Decima* from Saigon and the *Angkor* from Bangkok report likewise.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The P. & O.S. *Chusan* arrived from Bombay yesterday.

RICE.

The *Angkor* from Bangkok has 2,100 tons of rice for Messrs. Butterfield & Swire. The *Decima* from Saigon has 1,200 tons of rice for Messrs. Siemssen & Co.

THE "PRONETHEUS."

The *Standard*, from Cardiff, passing through this port, has 1,740 tons of coal on board.

THE "HONG MOH."

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ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1904.

OUR PARIS LETTER.

Paris, 18th March.

Not satisfied with expelling monks and nuns, M. Combes has taken further drastic measures, with the object of suppressing such monastic orders in France that refuse to conform to the regulations of the Government. His latest Bill, abolishing all their schools, and prohibiting all monks and nuns from teaching, save in private, is declared to be an infringement of the guaranteed liberties of the people. The Premier has come to the conclusion that "clerical teachers deform the minds of French youth." An opinion shared by the majority in the Chamber of Deputies, judging by the significant fact that the Bill has been declared urgent by 310 to 262 votes. M. Ribot and a few other respectable members of the Republican party voted against the Bill, for various reasons, partly of the ground of expenses, and the rights of citizenship; the day is past, however, when M. Ribot could command a majority in the Chamber, while it is only loss of a victory against opposing, much less of scoring a victory against so formidable a person as M. Combes. The Bill has evidently been most carefully planned out, since the State will not only provide subsidies for the said schools at a cost of £2,400,000, but will in addition expend another £320,000 on increasing the number of male and female teachers in the country. "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity," the motto of Republican France, stands out in strange contrast with the "autocracy" of M. Combes, who never was more determined to put an end to the vociferous religious question, before it reaches the uncontrollable stage.

The programme of M. Loubet's visit has at last been made public. All being well the President will leave Paris by special train on Saturday the 2nd of next month, arriving next day at Spezia, where, if there is no strike, he will be present at the launching of a battleship by Queen Helene. In case of labour troubles, the presidential train will proceed direct to Rome. M. Loubet, like the rest of his countrymen, attaches a great deal of importance to the Italian visit, which is already predicted to be a political and social success. The Italians are as anxious as the French that the greatest friendship should exist between the two Latin sister nations. A few official visits, followed by a Court dinner, will celebrate the day of arrival of M. Loubet. The gala performance to be given at the Argentina Theatre in honour of the illustrious guest and his party promises to be exceptionally brilliant and will equal in point of splendour the State representation given to the King and Queen of Italy when in Paris. The reception at the Capitol by Italian Municipality, and a grand review, will further impress M. Loubet with the citizens of Rome desire to make his stay in their capital as welcome as possible. Naples too will be visited, where there will also be a gala performance given at the San Carlo Theatre, and an imposing naval review. It is now known that M. Loubet will be accompanied by his distinguished husband on his journey south. Nothing is mentioned about a visit to the Vatican, where M. Loubet could hardly expect to be received *en amice* after the way the religious orders have been, and are still, treated in France by M. Combes. M. Loubet is certainly placed in an awkward position. If he goes to Italy without visiting the Pope he is certain to cause considerable trouble; yet, he is well aware that he is not wanted. How this very delicate point is to be settled few can tell.

M. Pelletan, the Minister of Marine, is anxious to obtain fair play in the campaign being conducted against him by his numerous enemies—chiefly advocates of the colonial policy. The Minister's recent statement before the Budget Committee of the Chamber, respecting the state of the French Naval forces abroad, is a straightforward one, and speaks for itself as far as M. Pelletan is concerned. He knew what his countrymen expected from him, and they could rely upon him to do his duty so far as was in his power. Those that considered M. Pelletan as a man of straw, or as one afraid to speak his mind, were strongly mistaken; even the members of the Budget Committee did not frighten him. No one was more willing to comment on any documents bearing on the Navy than M. Pelletan; but for those bearing on national defence, especially those concerning submarines, these he strictly refused to hand over to anyone, not even the Budget Committee. The Minister refused to agree to any sort of an inquiry assuming the character of a judicial examination, and declined to enter into his relations with his subordinates. What has M. Pelletan done since he was appointed head of the Admiralty? He lost no time in reinforcing and bringing up to date the French squadron in the Far East; that was more than his predecessor had done. He had had all the submarines provided for in the estimates to be laid down. Before he was Minister of Marine only from twelve to fifteen torpedo-boats were laid down every year; twenty-five had been put on the stocks this year, and fifty more were to be laid down. M. Pelletan strongly denied the charge that the shortness of sailors was now greater than in the time of his predecessors, and he refuted the criticism levelled at the naval personnel generally, declaring the present condition of things to be fairly satisfactory. The Minister further affirmed that the northern and Mediterranean squadrons, which could sail at a moment's notice, despite what was said to the contrary, would be absolutely complete by the middle of next month. Stocks of coal were fairly good into the bargain. M. Pelletan rightly thinks that he is entitled to a little fairer treatment—so think his friends, who firmly believe him to be a conscientious patriot above all things.

The French were sincerely sorry to hear of the death of the Duke of Cambridge, hopes of whose recovery were almost given up since a week. The deceased had become as familiar a person both in Paris and France as his late cousin, Queen Victoria, for both of whom the French had the greatest respect and esteem. As every winter came round they looked forward with pleasure to the visit of His Royal Highness to the South of France, and Paris where the aged veteran often stopped, by way of breaking the long journey. The Paris Press paid very flattering tributes to the late Duke, while military more than appreciated the aged royal soldier; many old French pensioners now in the Invalides—the French Chelsea Hospital—remember how bravely H.K.R. fought during the Crimean War, alongside the French. The

members of the British Colony expected his death since some days; and though regretting the loss of one who had done so much for his country, and served it so creditably in the field, found consolation in the fact that the oldest member of the English Royal Family has passed away so peacefully, when on the eve of eighty-five years of age. A special service will be held in the British Embassy Church at which not only the British Ambassador and members of the British Colony will be present, but several distinguished persons representing the French military, naval, and other official world. President Loubet will be represented, so will most of the Foreign Embassies.

The Irish Colony in Paris never fails to keep up St. Patrick's Day, whether wet or fine, in which the most of the British Colony, including several Americans, join. Shamrock is duly worn, though very little of it is sold in Paris; leading florists have it sent to them from the Emerald Isle to order. A few Frenchmen, who are in sympathy with the Irish—and on the side of Home Rule, though the latter is as dead as Queen Anne—wear a small sprig of the green in their button-holes. The special concert especially organised by enterprising members of the British Colony in honour of the 17th was a great success. Irish melodies were ever charming. Irishmen manage to dine together the same evening, and drink to the "health" of their patron saint—whose memory will never die out.

It is the firm belief of the French commercial world that something more might be done to develop trade between France and the United States. The recent report of M. Jules Siegfried, ex-Minister of Commerce, as presented to the Chamber des Deputes, is a very interesting document, and well worth the attentive perusal of all Frenchmen. The reason why France sells so few goods to America, only fifteen per cent. of her total exports, is that American duties are too high, and that American tariffs are too high. Let us suppose, for instance, that the American side accordingly, and the amount of French goods sold in the States will rapidly increase. France is urged to try and obtain a reciprocity treaty with America. It is no secret that American goods in France are subject to higher duties than those of any other great nation, simply because by special conventions the other nations receive the minimum rates of the French tariff, while the United States are, as it were, left alone under the maximum rate. Now that France is on such good terms with England, and is very anxious to be on an equal footing with America, it is not surprising that she should be practically masters of the situation both on land and sea. The Russians are inclined to play another waiting game, until the severe weather breaks; the Japanese are meanwhile keeping them on the move night and day, smashing up what remains of the Russian fleet, and making things otherwise uncomfortable for them on land. Port Arthur will eventually fall into the hands of the Japanese, as the Russians can not prevent them; to abandon the place before it is too late would be wise policy, since they will have "Togo" sooner or later. The talk of General Kuropatkin creates smiles in order to finish with Japan at the end of July, he must first make a beginning. The General, who is full of boasts, intends to operate *en masse* in order to give Japan a lesson, and to occupy their islands as soon as he shall crush the Japanese in Corea and Manchuria. Finally, the Treaty of Peace shall be signed at Tokyo and nowhere else. Judging by such a flow of fine words, General Kuropatkin anticipates a walk over the Japs. He will soon find out his mistake, when he gets nearer to the line of fire. One cannot help expressing surprise at such tall talk emanating from one who is considered as a serious man and a first-class soldier. He would not discourage his countrymen as he has been doing, though in his heart he must have known that it was all nonsense, to indulge in such predictions. The Russians are not a match for the Japanese on sea, despite all their powerful big ships, on which so much faith was placed; the remarkable appliances used by the victorious for fighting in the dark have quite baffled their enemy, who never dreamt that war tools of this description existed. When the Japanese Navy possesses so many surprises, it may be taken for certain that the Japanese Army also is equally well provided.

People talk as little as they can about the new Dreyfus trial. This cannot be wondered at, considering how weary all Frenchmen are of the whole business, which apparently seems to have no end. The Press merely records the proceedings of the trial from day today, indulging in few criticisms, so as not to stir up strife or create any sort of an agitation. Public opinion is willing that *l'affaire Dreyfus* shall be settled according to the laws of evidence. The Court de Cassation, which it will be remembered ordered a supplementary inquiry by the Criminal Chamber, is almost certain to support the conclusions of M. Boyer's report, when the full Court, as already observed, will have to decide whether it will annul the Rennes verdict or order another court-martial. Ex-Captain Dreyfus has had to suffer for the sins of other, who substituted his name for that of another person.

Consumption and alcoholism are to be stamped out of the country at all costs; the lead in this direction has been taken by the Premier himself, M. Combes. The circular which has been issued by that gentleman has had for result to wake up the public authorities, and to force them to take action. Tuberculosis is henceforth to be combated in a most effective manner, according to the instructions of the Premier. Several of the leading hospitals in Paris have been re-organized, so as to be ready for the reception of consumptive patients only. M. Combes has come to the conclusion that isolation, plenty of good food, light, and fresh air, are the most favourable conditions under which tuberculosis stands a chance of being cured. It is not to be expected that patients in mixed hospitals can be cured from the dreadful affliction; the curing of

consumption in any case is as slow a process as the contraction of the disease. Parisians who do not agree with M. Combes on the religious question, are only too happy to accord him their support in his efforts to battle against and combat tuberculosis, which tends to become so prevalent in France.

The "Fair of Paris"—a rival to the well-known Leipzig gathering—opened last Thursday under the most happy of auspices. It occupies the site of the Old Temple Market, where second-hand clothes and boots were chiefly sold. The "Fair" consists of nearly 800 stands, all occupied, the show-articles ranging from penny toys to pianos. Buyers, who were mostly Germans, were very numerous, the place being also crowded with other foreign visitors who also purchased a few articles. The opening ceremony took place in fine weather. The Minister of Commerce, who was attended by a distinguished company, met with a warm reception, while a military band struck up the Marseillaise. The "Fair" is to be a commercial exhibition where wholesale buyers from every part of France as well as from abroad may gather once a year and do business, just as at the Leipzig Fair. Small customers, however, are not wanted; should the "Fair of Paris" answer the purpose for which it has been created—and there is no reason why it should not do so—it will have representatives of large houses, much time and trouble by bringing together at one time and in one place the goods as well as the dealers of every important industry in France. Though the Fair will close next Saturday week, the 26th, a few days' grace are anticipated, at least till the end of the month. The idea of the Fair is an excellent one in every respect; it became most popular from the first, and will certainly increase in success as it gets older. The presence of many Americans was significant; no one is surer than the "Yankee" for extracting the brain of any paying concern in any part of the civilised world.

The French theatrical world is keenly following the progress being made of establishing a permanent French theatre in London—an old idea, which Parisians have long tried to popularise. It is firmly believed that a venture of this kind would certainly pay in the long run, judging by the tremendous success recorded by French companies every summer in London. M. Armand Silvestre is already in treaty with Mmes. Garnier, Réjane, and others, and hopes before long to be able to give more details as to the new theatre which he proposes to have built in the English capital. M. Silvestre is quite aware of the fact that the French Colony in London being small, it could not be expected to keep the theatre going on its own account, English playgoers must be chiefly relied upon. In that case Mr. Silvestre will have to show himself a man of extraordinary penetration. Strange to say, the English public is in many respects diametrically opposed to the French theatre-going public, so that what suits one will not suit the other. It doesn't follow that because such stars as Sarah Bernhardt, Réjane, and Jeanne Garnier can always draw an audience, they are, for that reason, the best players one can do so. This is one of the principal difficulties which must be solved before the idea of any French theatre can be entertained. M. Silvestre is a very experienced man in theatrical matters happily, and is certain to act accordingly.

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Suntow, den 28. December 1903.
DER KAISERLICHE DEUTSCHE KONSUL, I.V. KAUSER.

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Fine turnouts for the guests of the hotel. Elegant rubber-tired carriages, fast horses, good coachmen. The New Oriente Hotel is now open for inspection.

SIMON SCHNEER & CO.,
PROPRIETORS.

[266]

JOHN ROBERTS & COMPANY, LTD.

BILLIARD TABLE MAKERS.

BOMBAY.

Undertake to Supply a First-class full sized Billiard Table, design No. 1, to following Specification, viz: on Eight Massive turned Legs, raised panels to Knees, Carved Brackets, Screwed Mouldings, double bolted, best Welsh Slate Bed, extra heavy solid cushion rails fitted with our new low set Express Cushions, patent invisible Pocket Plates, best Whipcord Pockets, Six Chalk Cues, Superior West of England Cloth, and patent adjusting toes with lever for levelling complete with the following accessories:—

- | | |
|---|--|
| 12 Selected Ash Cues | 1 Wall Cue Rack |
| 1 Best Rest with Patent Brass Head. | 1 Wall Butt Rack |
| 1 Billiard Rest with Patent Brass Head. | 1 Set Billiard Rules, Framed. |
| 1 Long Butt. | 1 Best Billiard Brush. |
| 1 Mid Butt. | 1 Set "Crystals" or "Benzoline" Bill. Balls. |
| 1 Billiard Marking Board. | 1 Box Best Cue Tips, Assorted. |
| 1 Dust Cover for Table. | 1 Cue Tip Fastener with File. |
| Straightedge and Circle. | 1 Bottle Cue Cement. |
| 1 Best Spirit Level | 1 Box Silk Spots. |
| 1 Smoothing Iron with Shoe. | 2 Dozen Best White Chalk. |

Packed and delivered free on Board Hongkong or Shanghai Harbour for the sum of Rs. 1,400 nett.

Illustrated price lists giving prices and particulars of everything pertaining to billiards can be had on application from the Offices of this paper.

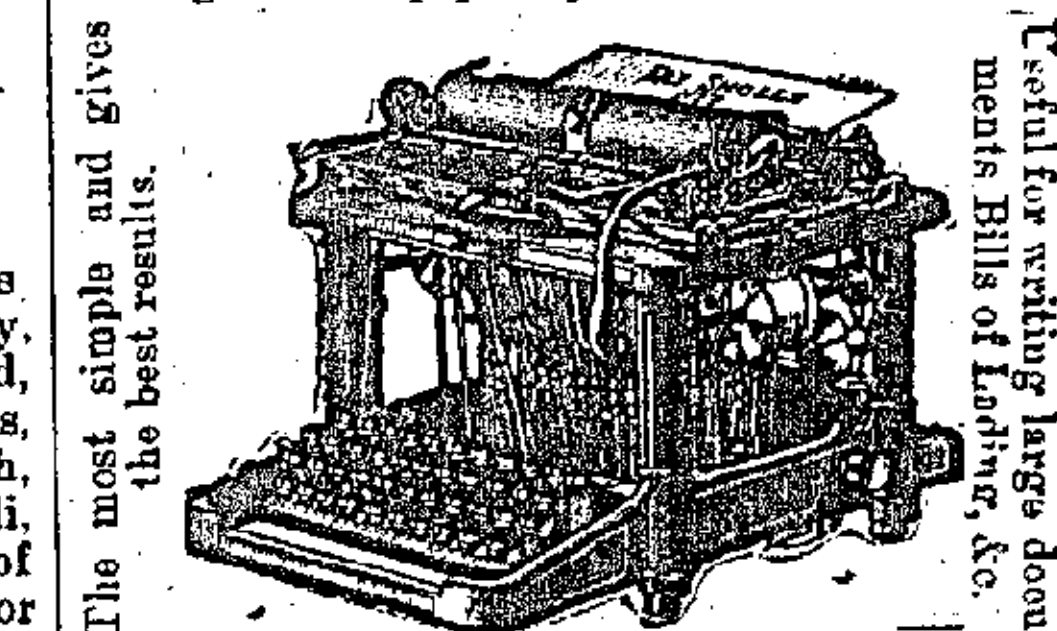
Hongkong, 1st April, 1904.

[937-1]

PAY-SHOLES TYPEWRITER.

Model No. 7 Writes 36 Characters.

THE best and most complete Machine on the market, can be fitted with special carriage to take paper up to 16 inches wide.



Agents for South China.
W. BREWER & CO.,
Hongkong.

Hongkong, 13th April, 1904. [894]

DAVID CORSE & SONS
MERCHANT NAVY
NAVY BOILED
ONG FLAX
RELIANCE CROWN
TARPAULIN
ARNHOLD, KARBURG & CO.
Sole Agents.

ARGUS DE LA PRESSE.
FONDEE EN 1857.
POUR être sûr de ne pas laisser échapper un journal qui l'aurait nommé, il était abonné à l'Argus de la Presse, "qui lit, décrypte, et traduit tous les journaux du monde, et en fournit les extraits sur n'importe quel sujet."
Hector MALOT (Zola, p. 70 et 323)
L'Argus de la Presse fournit aux artistes, littérateurs, savants, hommes politiques, tout ce qui paraît sur leur compte dans les journaux et revues du monde entier.
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S'adresser aux bureaux de l'Argus, 14, rue Drouot, Paris. — Téléphone.
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BEKAN, NACHUNG.
Die Bekanntmachungen aus dem dissonierten Handelsregister, sowie andere gesetzlich vorgeschriebene Veröffentlichungen werden im Jahre 1904 durch das "Ostasiatische Lloyd" und die "Hongkong Daily Press" veröffentlicht.
Suntow, den 28. December 1903.
DER KAISERLICHE DEUTSCHE KONSUL, I.V. KAUSER.

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DER KAISERLICHE DEUTSCHE KONSUL, I.V. KAUSER.

HIRANO WATER.

THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATER.

PURE, SPARKLING, INVIGORATING.

THE LEADING MINERAL WATER OF THE FAR EAST

Bottled in Japan by H. E. REYNELL & Co.

BEWARE OF JAPANESE IMITATIONS.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1903. [44]

BUD WEISER
BEER

EXTRA PALE LAGER IN CLEAR BOTTLES,

OF UNIVERSAL POPULARITY.

ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING

ASSOCIATION, ST. LOUIS.



"This Beer is brewed of best Saazer Hops and finest Barley Malt only, and warranted not to contain Chemicals in any form.
The Beer is sterilized after being bottled, and full matured age insures its fine condition in any climate. Beautifully bright, seductively sparkling, and perfectly pure."
F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
Sole Agents.
Hongkong, 25th July 1903. [54]

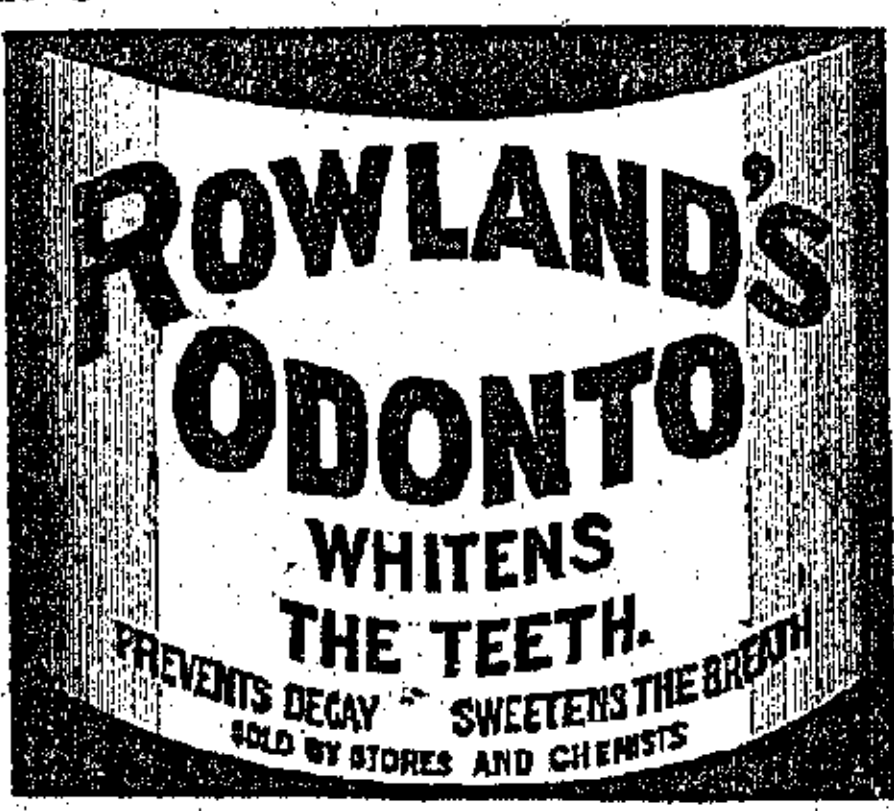
報新外中港香
CHUNG NGOI SAN PO
(Chinese Daily Press).

PUBLISHED DAILY.
is the oldest and still immeasurably the best medium for Advertising among the Native Community.
Established for nearly FORTY YEARS
circulates largely throughout Southern China, Indo-China, etc.

Terms for Advertising (Translations free) can be obtained at the Office, 14, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong, 131, Fleet Street, London, or from the different Agents.
Documents translated from or into Classical or Colloquial Chinese.

報新外中港香
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(Chinese Daily Press).

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is the oldest and still immeasurably the best medium for Advertising among the Native Community.
Established for nearly FORTY YEARS
circulates largely throughout Southern China, Indo-China, etc.



[1813-3]

68-2

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherlands-Indian ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to
THE AGENTS,
THE HOLLAND CHINA TRADING CO.
Telephone No. 201.
Hongkong, 11th April, 1904.

[25]

OCEAN STEAM SHIP CO., LD. AND CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD. JOINT SERVICES.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAPA,
AND SUMATRA PORTS.

FROM	STEAMERS	TO	DUE
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"DEUCALION"	On 1st May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ULYSSES"	On 7th May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"TEENAI"	On 13th May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"CALCHAS"	On 19th May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"DARDANUS"	On 25th May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"YANPESSE"	On 31st May.	
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"DIOMED"	On 6th June.	

HOMEWARDS.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
LONDON and ANTWERP	"TELEMACHUS"	On 25th April.
LONDON and ANTWERP	"ANTENOR"	On 10th May.
GENOA, MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL	"ACHILLES"	On 20th May.
LONDON and ANTWERP	"ACINOUS"	On 24th May.
LONDON and ANTWERP	"PROMETHEUS"	On 7th June.
GENOA, MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL	"DEUCALION"	On 14th June.

* Taking Cargo for Liverpool at London Rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and PACIFIC COAST PORTS, via NAGASAKI, KOBE, and YOKOHAMA	"CALCHAS"	On 17th May.

The s.s. "ANHUI" left Port Darwin on the 30th March, for Manila and Hongkong.
For Freight, apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.
[10-11]

CHINA NAVIGATION CO. LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, and MELBOURNE	"TAIYUAN"	On 23rd April.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI	"HANYANG"	On 23rd April, P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SHAOHSING"	On 24th April, A.M.
SHANGHAI	"WHAMPOA"	On 24th April, P.M.
SHANGHAI	"CHENAN"	On 25th April, P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SUNGKIANG"	On 27th April.
MANILA	"WUCHANG"	On 28th April.

* The attention of Passengers is directed to the superior accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled Table. A daily qualified Surgeon is carried.
* Taking Cargo on through bills of lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.
* Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates for all New Zealand Ports and other Australian Ports.
REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN TO MANILA AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS (See Special Advertisement).
For Freight or Passage, apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.
[12]

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE. OSTASIATISCHER FRACHTDAMPFER DIENST.

Taking Cargo at through rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, COPENHAGEN, LONDON, Oporto, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRISTE, GENOA, PORTS in the LEVANTE, BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS, NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
SUEVIA	HAVRE and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 25th April. Freight.
ARTEMISIA	HAVRE and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 12th May. Freight.
MAIBURG	HAVRE, BREMEN and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 17th May. Freight.
STRASSBURG	HAVRE and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 31st May. Freight & Passengers.
SEGROVIA	HAVRE and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 14th June. Freight.
NURNBERG	HAVRE and HAMBURG (Calling at Singapore and Penang)	On 23rd June. Freight.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.
HONGKONG OFFICE.
QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, No. 1.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.
(Calling at Port Darwin and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)
The Steamship

"EMPIRE"
Captain Helms, will be despatched for the above ports on WEDNESDAY, the 11th May, at Noon.
This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, tea, &c., throughout the voyage.
The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.
A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.
N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the Steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 16th April, 1904. [1032]

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS.

The Underigned GENERAL AGENTS in CHINA and JAPAN for the above Line are prepared to issue THROUGH BILLS OF LADING for all the principal ports in SOUTH AFRICA, in connection with INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO.'s fortnightly service hence to CALCUTTA. Sailings from CALCUTTA for Cape Ports every fortnight.
For Freight and further particulars, apply to
DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,
General Agents for China and Japan.
Hongkong, 4th August, 1897. [8]

VESSELS ON THE BERTH

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR LONDON AND ANTWERP (via SUEZ CANAL).
The Steamship

"BENALDER,"
Captain Melatosh, will be despatched as above on or about the 7th May.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 15th April, 1904. [1021]

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

STEAMSHIP "POLYNESIEN."
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London ex s.s. *Dante and Sidos*, from Havre ex s.s. *Sidos*, from Bordeaux ex s.s. *Ville de Constance* and *Ville de Rochefort*, in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before Noon, To-day, 18th inst., requesting it to be landed here.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Underigned, Goods remaining unclaimed after Monday, the 25th April, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.
All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 25th April, or they will not be recognised.
All damaged packages will be examined on Monday, the 25th April, at 3 P.M.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent.
Hongkong, 18th April, 1904. [2]

FROM HAMBURG, ANTWERP, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE H.A.L. Steamship
"ARMENIA."
Captain Forst, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Underigned and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.
Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before Noon, To-day, the 18th inst.
Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 25th inst. will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 25th inst., at 3 P.M.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE, Hongkong Office.
Hongkong, 18th April, 1904. [1043]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED, AND CHINA MUTUAL STEAM-NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer

"HYSON."
are hereby notified that the Cargo is being discharged into Craft, and/or landed at the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., where in both cases it will be at Consignees' risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Craft or Godown on and after the 20th inst.
Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 25th inst., at 3 P.M.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 25th inst. will be subject to rent.
All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underigned on or before the 25th inst., or they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 18th April, 1904. [10-11]

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

FROM NEW YORK, S.S. "ARABIA."

CONSIGNEES are hereby informed that the Cargo ex the above steamer has arrived here by

S.S. "HYSON"
For delivery, apply to
HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.
Hongkong, 20th April, 1904. [1065]

BEKANNTMACHUNG.

DIE amtlichen Veröffentlichungen der Konsulate Pakhoi und Hoihow erfolgten wachsend des Jahres 1904 durch den "Ostasiatischen Lloyd" und "Hongkong Daily Press." Pakhoi, 17th December, 1903.

DER KASERLICHE KONSUL A.D. H. VON VARCHMIN.

NOW ON SALE.

A BOOK FOR THE GLOBETROTTER.
"FROM HONGKONG TO CANTON BY THE PEARL RIVER."
BY
CAPTAIN C. V. LLOYD (S.S. "HANKOW")
With Illustrations, Maps and Plans.
Price \$1.90
On Sale at—
Hongkong: "DAILY PRESS" Office,
Messrs. KELLY & WALSH,
Messrs. W. E. HAWTHORNE & CO.,
Messrs. A. S. WATSON & CO.,
Canton: "DAILY PRESS" Office,
Messrs. A. S. WATSON & CO.,
Hongkong, 4th October, 1903. [28]

MARTIN'S

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"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
The only office in China having European taught workmen. Equal to Home Work.

JEWELLERS

MAISON LEVY HERMANOS.
Diamond Merchants and Watchmakers, 10 Watson's Building, Queen's Road. Also at Shanghai, Manila, Paris and Hanoi.

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MUMEYA, JAPANESE ARTIST.
Bromide and Crayon Enlargements and also colouring Photos and relief Photos. Views of China and Manila. Work done for Amateurs; No. 8A, Queen's Road Central.

PRINTING

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
Proofs read by English men.

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BLACKHEAD & CO.,
Navy Contractors, Sailmakers, Provision and Coal Merchants, S.I. Agents for Hartmann Rühli's Genuine Corn position Red Head Brand.

BISMARCK & CO.,
Navy Contractors, Ship Chandlers, Provision and Coal Merchants, Sailmakers, &c. Fresh Water supplied to Vessels in the harbour.

KWONG SANG & CO.,
Shipchaulders, Sailmakers, Provisioners, Coal Merchants, Hardware Engineers' Tools, Brass and Iron Merchants, 144, Des Vaux Road.

"WE SEND ON APPROVAL"
and guarantee safe delivery
Highest quality Cycle and Motor
Lamps, \$2.10 to \$5.50
CARRIAGE PAID to any
part of the world.
Motor Cars and Motorcycles
Tires, Accessories, Spare Parts, etc.
Sewing Machines, Electric Fans, etc.
For Catalogue and Special Offer
for using our foreign postage.
MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. 532 H.
Chicago, U.S.A. and LONDON, ENGLAND.

30/-

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THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals at Lyons, Nîmes, Valenciennes, and others, combines all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 1 is a remarkable short-acting, efficient, and safe remedy for the treatment of the urinary organs, effecting a rapid cure in all cases of urinary calculus, gravel, and other urinary diseases. It is a powerful diuretic, and its action is rapid and reliable. It is a valuable remedy for the treatment of the urinary organs, and its use is recommended by the medical profession.

THERAPION No. 2 is a powerful diuretic, and its action is rapid and reliable. It is a valuable remedy for the treatment of the urinary organs, and its use is recommended by the medical profession.

THERAPION No. 3 is a powerful diuretic, and its action is rapid and reliable. It is a valuable remedy for the treatment of the urinary organs, and its use is recommended by the medical profession.

THERAPION is sold by the principal chemists and druggists in all parts of the world. It is a valuable remedy for the treatment of the urinary organs, and its use is recommended by the medical profession.

Sold by A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED
Hongkong, China, and Manila.

DODGE WOOD SPLIT PULLEYS.

ALL SIZES TO FIT ALL SIZED SHAFTS IN STOCK.

Also large Stocks of GANDY COTTON BELTING.

SOLE AGENTS,
LUTGENS BISMANN & CO.,
HONGKONG.

40 & 61, BENTINCK STREET, CALCUTTA.

Telegraphic Address: "MAHARANT," CALCUTTA.

A.B.C. Code, 5th Edition, used.

THE STANDARD INDIAN BILLIARD TABLE

made throughout in Calcutta of thoroughly seasoned solid wood and fitted with extra long cushions. Guaranteed to stand the TROPICAL CLIMATE.

Price complete, with accessories for Billiards Rs. 1,450, packed.

C. L. & Co. take all RISKS against BREAKAGE.

Latest PRICE LIST can be had from "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS" Office.

[319]

COLEMAN'S WINCARNIS

A delicious beverage and tonic made from choice wines, Liebig's Extract of Meat, and Extract of Malt.

Over 6,000 Testimonials received from the Medical Profession of the United Kingdom.

WINCARNIS has an unrivalled reputation of over twenty years as the finest tonic and restorative in the world.

"An Ideal Pick-me-up," Suitable for all Climates."

SOLE MANUFACTURERS: COLEMAN & CO., LTD., NORWICH, ENGLAND.

AGENTS:
Hongkong—A. S. Watson & Co. Shanghai—J. Llewellyn & Co., Medical Hall.
Japan—A. Cameron & Co., Kobe. Penang—Georgetown Dispensary.
Singapore—English Pharmacy.

THEODORO VAFIADIS & CO

MANUFACTURERS OF HIGH-CLASS FACTORY: CAIRO, EGYPT

EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES. (Close to H.E. Nubar Pasha's Palace)

PURVEYOR TO THE BRITISH FIELD FORCE CATERERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

BRANCHES:
BOMBAY.....20, ESPLANADE ROAD.
CALCUTTA.....4, DALHOUSIE SQUARE.
RANGOON.....72, MARSHALL STREET.
LONDON.....10, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.

ALWAYS FRESH AND RELIABLE AT THEIR AGENTS—

MESSRS. KRUSE & CO., HONGKONG

[44]

VISITORS AT HOTELS

HONGKONG HOTELS.

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Mr. H. S. Allen
Mr. J. L. Lewis
Mr. J. L. Lewis
Mr. J. L. Lewis

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POST OFFICE NOTICES.

Until further notice the transmission of correspondence via the Trans-Siberian Railway is discontinued.

The *Bayern*, with the German mail, left Singapore on Friday, the 22nd inst., at 10 a.m., and may be expected here on or about Tuesday, the 26th inst., at 5 p.m.

The *Coptic*, with the American mail, will leave Yokohama on Friday, the 22nd inst., via Kobe, Nagasaki and Manila, and may be expected here on or about Monday, the 2nd prox.

MAILS WILL CLOSE

FOR	PER	DATE
Canton	Hongkong	Saturday, 23rd, 7.30 A.M.
Shanghai	Chusan	Saturday, 23rd, 9.00 A.M.
Manila	Zebu	Saturday, 23rd, 9.00 A.M.
Tourane and Quihuone	Progress	Saturday, 23rd, 10.00 A.M.
Kuchinotzu	Oscar II	Saturday, 23rd, 10.00 A.M.
Amoy	Nanshan	Saturday, 23rd, 10.00 A.M.
Europe &c., India via Tutuorin		Saturday, 23rd, 11.00 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents)		
(Letters posted in the Peak Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Macao		Saturday, 23rd, 1.15 P.M.
Port Darwin, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne		Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Swatow	Thales	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Moji and Salma Cruz (Mex.)	Chawing	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Shanghai	Hongkong	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Amoy	Shanghai	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Namiao	Taiwan	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Sanhu	Hofu	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Macao	Wingchai	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Swatow, Amoy and Tamsui	Frithof	Saturday, 23rd, 3.00 P.M.
Namiao	Taiwan	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Sanhu	Hofu	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Macao	Wingchai	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Canton	Pronto	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Bangkok	Hongkong	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Macao	Hongkong	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Hoihow, Singapore and Bangkok	Faklat	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Moji	Wingchai	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Shanghai	Chawing	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Shanghai	Taiwan	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Namiao	Hofu	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Sanhu	Wingchai	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Macao	Pronto	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta	Yuewang	Sunday, 24th, 9.00 A.M.
Manila	Strasbourg	Tuesday, 26th, 5.00 P.M.
Shanghai	Parana	Wednesday, 27th, 10.45 A.M.
Amoy, Straits and Rangoon		Wednesday, 27th, 10.45 A.M.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver (B.C.)		Wednesday, 27th, 10.45 A.M.
Europe &c., India via Tutuorin		Wednesday, 27th, 10.45 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents)		
(Letters posted in the Peak Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Manila	Sungkiang	Wednesday, 27th, 3.00 P.M.
Cebu and Iloilo	Wuchang	Thursday, 28th, 3.00 P.M.
Manila	Rubi	Thursday, 28th, 9.00 A.M.
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu and San Francisco		Thursday, 28th, 9.00 A.M.
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents)		
Europe &c., India via Tutuorin		Thursday, 28th, 11.00 A.M. Extra Postage 10 cents.
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents)		
(Letters posted in the Peak Pillar Boxes in time for the first clearance will be included in this contract mail.)		
Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver (B.C.)		Thursday, 28th, 11.00 A.M.
(Supplementary mail on board up to the time fixed for departure of the mail)		
(Extra Postage 10 cents)		

TO DAY.

Sale, Stamps, Sales Rooms, Mr. V. I. Remedios, 2 p.m.

Sale, Pekin Curios, Sales Rooms, Messrs. Hughes & Hoag, 2.30 p.m.

Smoking Concert, Club Gymnasium, Kowloon, 9 p.m.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

22nd April.

ON LONDON.

Telegraphic Transfer 1.94

Bank Bills, on demand 1.94

Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1.94

Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1.94

Credits, at 4 months' sight 1.94

Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1.94

ON PARIS.

Bank Bills, on demand 2.29

Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.29

ON GERMANY.

On demand 181

ON NEW YORK.

Bank Bills, on demand 43

Credits, 60 days' sight 44

ON BOMBAY.

Telegraphic Transfer 132

Bank, on demand 132

ON CALCUTTA.

Telegraphic Transfer 132

Bank, on demand 132

ON SHANGHAI.

Bank, at sight 73

Private, 30 days' sight 73

ON YOKOHAMA.

On demand Nominal

ON MANILA.

On demand Nominal

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 106

ON HONGKONG.

On demand 2 p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 2 p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 2 p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 2 p.m.

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On demand 2 p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 2 p.m.

ON SINGAPORE.

On demand 2 p.m.

THE INDIAN MAIL.

The steamer *Catherine* leaves from Calcutta, left Singapore for this port on the 20th inst., p.m., and is due here on the 25th inst.

The Indo-China steamer *Nanshan* left Calcutta for this port via the Straits on the 17th inst., and may be expected here on the 4th prox.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The P.M. steamer *Korea* left San Francisco for this port via Honolulu, &c., on the 15th inst.

The O. & O. steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco, leaves Yokohama for this port via Kobe, &c., on the 22nd inst.

THE CANADIAN MAIL.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on the 15th inst., p.m., for Hongkong via the usual ports of call.

MERCHANT STEAMERS.

The F. & A. steamer *Empire* left Manila on the 20th inst., and is due here on the 23rd inst., at daylight.

The H.A.L. steamer *Strasbourg*, from Hamburg, left Singapore for this port on the 19th inst., a.m., and may be expected here on the 25th inst., at daylight.

The Ben Line steamer *Bennahr*, from Antwerp and London, left Singapore on the 20th inst. for this port.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer *Tetapichus*, from London and Antwerp, is expected here from Shanghai on the 25th inst., at daylight.

The A.L. steamer *Fraser* left left Moji for this port on the 21st inst.

The J.C.J. Lin steamer *Triton* left Macao for this port on the 19th inst., and may be expected here on the 28th inst.

The C.P.R. steamer *Tartar* arrived at Kobe at noon on Wednesday, the 20th inst., and left again at 6.30 p.m., Thursday, via Nagasaki for Shanghai, where she is due to arrive at 8 a.m. on Monday, the 25th inst.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer *Pingyue* left Victoria (B.C.) on the 24th ult. for Japan and Hongkong.

The Boston Steamship Co.'s steamer *Shawmut* left Victoria for Yokohama and the usual ports on the 1st inst.

The O.S.S. & C.M. steamer *Agamemnon* should leave Victoria (B.C.) for Japan and Hongkong on the 21st inst.

The P. & A. steamer *Indrapura* left Portland for Hongkong via Japan ports on the 8th inst., and is expected here on the 11th prox.

STEAMERS PASSED THE CANAL.

April 5th—*Pera*, Theodore, *Elia*, *Sagami*, *Bayern*, *Deutsche*, *Gerd*, *8th*, *Ernest*, *Simons*, *Titania*, *Gisela*, *Verona*, *Ulysses*, *Don*, *Segovia*, *Algonia*, *Plantanus*. 12th—*Socotra*, *Strachan*, *Sand*. 15th—*Courfield*, *Calculus*, *Indragayo*, *Sydney*, *Tenhai*, *Borneo*, *Silverpit*, 19th—*Vindobona*, *Elaine*, *Heinrich*, *Sithonia*.

ARRIVALS AT HOME.

April 5th—*Seydlitz*, *Talor*, *Hudson*, *Kendrick*, *8th*—*Australien*, *9th*—*Palermo*, *12th*—*C. Ford*, *Laeta*, *Keenan*, *13th*—*Palma*, *15th*—*Radnorshire*, *19th*—*Moyane*, *Oanfa*.

PASSENGERS.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Capt. Greet, R.N., Lieut. R. S. Hewlett and J. S. Harris, 2nd Lieut. K. E. L. Creighton,

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAM.

WAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.	WEEK DAYS.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
6.30 a.m. to 7.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	10.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.	11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 p.m. to 12.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	12.00 a.m. to 12.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
12.30 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	1.00 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.30 a.m. to 2.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	2.00 a.m. to 2.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.30 a.m. to 3.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	3.00 a.m. to 3.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.30 a.m. to 4.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	4.00 a.m. to 4.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.30 a.m. to 5.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	5.00 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.30 a.m. to 6.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.	6.00 a.m. to 6

LAGDEN'S LUCK.
(A STRANGE LOVE STORY).
BY
TOM GALLON.

(Author of "Tatterley," "The Mystery of John Peppercorn," &c.)

SYNOPSIS OF INSTALLMENT I AND II.—Mr. Clement Frith, a Commission Agent, living in Kensington, finds himself in rather low water. His daughter Dora tells several means by which to make both ends meet, but does not succeed until she takes in lodger, a wealthy gentleman of the name of Lagden, and with an air of mystery about him. On his being taken ill one day a doctor is summoned who tells them that the lodger is in recovery. Lagden makes a will leaving him all his property providing she is willing to marry him at once. It appears that Frith gives his consent to this strange request before he informs his daughter of it. After a conversation with the dying man, Dora refuses to marry him. At last her father persuades her to consent; a clergyman is called, and the ceremony performed. Lagden afterwards gives the girl a packet which, she says, must not be opened until the night of her wedding. Later in the day, on looking into the man's room, Dora is astonished to find that he has disappeared. The next morning Frank Dorne, her former lover, who, she thought, had died abroad, calls.

CHAPTER III.

FRANK HAD A LONG HAND. Picture to yourself, if possible, the state of a man who has steadily built upon one idea for months and years, not any castles alone, but what he deemed to be a substantial structure—brick by brick—until it stood, a glorious edifice, in his imagination, waiting only to be peopled. Picture to yourself that the one being who was to people that glorious edifice—the jewel of which it was to be the crown—was a woman of whose love he was sure; it was waiting for him, and he had but to go back and demand it as his by right. Then, against that picture, set the other; that of the man asking for what was his, and being denied; his dream shattered, and his house of cards in the dust.

That was the position of Frank Dorne. He had returned after three years. A miracle had occurred, and this man, so long supposed to be dead, was back again among the living ready to play the Fairy Prince to the girl he had loved as a boy. In the romantic fashion which might have been expected of him, he came back at night, to stand beneath her window, like some modern Romeo, and tell again the tale that had been unuttered on his lips so long—waiting only for her to hear it. And now, in a moment, she told him that she did not love him, and that it had all been a mistake.

He was suddenly like a man in another world. The solid things of life had slipped away from him; the humble little square, that had been before his mind's eye so often in far-off strange lands, and in which he had dreamed that he would meet her, and talk with her in the silence of a summer evening, was faded and gone; only a dingy place of mean and squalid houses; the garden in the centre, that had bloomed in his imagination with the flowers of Paradise, a dusty grassy place, that had no right to call itself a garden at all.

He wandered away aimlessly; it did not matter in what direction he went. The world was dead for him, and he did not care what became of him. Every street was like another, there was no Dora in any prospect that he faced. Then another and a better mood came upon him. After all, what right had he to turn tail like this, like a whipped dog, and run away? There must be some mistake; she had not known him; or the shock of seeing him had been too great, and had unnerved her. He would go back; everything would be right.

He returned through the deserted streets, and crossed the little square. Though the day was fully come, a pale light still burned in her window; he stood at the foot of the stairs, and he had seen him for the light went out, and the blind was drawn instantly.

There was a mystery here—something not to be fathomed in the ordinary way. He might have expected at least, that she would express some surprise at this sudden return of a man the world had believed to be dead; whatever surprise she may have felt, had been swallowed up in the desire she had to get rid of him. With a laugh and a shrug, he decided that in this fashion, he would wait a little longer.

Full daylight at last, and people moving about the square. Sleepy servant-girls, coming out with brushes and pails; milkmen, with falsetto voices with a break in them, proclaiming themselves shrilly. Then at last—blessed sight to the waiting man!—the one particular blind drawn up.

He waited a discreet half hour, and then went to the house, and rang the bell. He enquired for Miss Frith; the staring servant, who was a stranger to him, requested him to wait in the hall. As a matter of fact, the girl was too used to impudent callers to lead them further into the house than was absolutely necessary.

At last, after some delay, Mr. Clement Frith came jauntily downstairs; bowed gravely to Frank, without noticing his outstretched hand, and requested that he would walk into a room, the door of which he would open for him, and then, and waiting more and more, while he happened to change everyone's face, found himself alone in the room with Mr. Clement Frith, and the door closed.

"I came quite early this morning, sir," began Frank lustily. "I only arrived in England a matter of a few hours ago; I have waited for nothing, until I could come straight to Dora."

"To—The raised eyebrows of Mr. Clement Frith suggested a question.

"Dora," repeated the young man firmly. "Come, Mr. Frith, you could not have been blind in the old days three years ago—you must have understood that Dora and I were each other; you must have known that I went out across the world to make a fortune for her, and for myself."

"I trust—most sincerely do I trust—that you have succeeded," said Mr. Clement Frith. "I have, indeed; but that has nothing to do with the matter. I met Dora only a little time back; she would have nothing to do with me. Won't you tell me what it all means?"

Mr. Clement Frith sighed, and shook his head. "My young friend," he said, "you should surely understand by this time, that when a woman makes up her mind about a matter, we—this weaker sex—must persevere. It is three years, I believe, since you left us, and you have been reported to be—in a word—non-existent. Why blame the lady if, in the meantime, she has consoled herself?"

"I won't believe it!" exclaimed Frank fiercely. "I just hear it from her own lips, before I'll believe it. I know that she would be true to me through everything; nothing could change her; I want to see her."

"What if she has—er—formed other attachments?" asked Mr. Clement Frith.

"She shall tell me so herself," said Frank Dorne quickly.

"I fear you will be disappointed; but I will endeavor to persuade her to see you," said Mr. Clement Frith. "Fine weather we are having," he added, as he went out of the room.

In a few moments Dora came in with her father. Perhaps Frank had hoped that he might see the girl alone; in that he was to be disappointed. Mr. Clement Frith was not to be shaken off.

"Dora," began the young man, in a low voice, as she stood before him, a slim, quiet, white-faced figure in black—"I want you to tell me, and only you—what this means. I suppose I ought to have prepared you for my coming; I ought to have let you know, at least, that the story of my death was not true; I suppose I ought to have told you what I was doing in these years. Dear—despite the presence of Mr. Clement Frith, he stretched out his hands towards the girl appealingly—"I was working hard in a foreign land—for you; for you I was building up a fortune. Don't tell me that I have come back from the grave, and worked for you in vain."

"There has been a great mistake," she said, in a low voice, without looking at him. "I believed you to be dead; I belong to—someone else."

"In a word, my dear sir," broke in Mr. Clement Frith airily—"my daughter—after mourning for a decent time over the supposed decease of a lover to whom her girlish affections had been given, has turned, like the flowers to the sun, to another. Not willingly, perhaps, but we are all the creatures of circumstance. Romance is all very well in theory; but when a girl—"

"Father, dear," she broken in quickly—"I want to speak to Frank—to Mr. Dorne—for a few moments. Will—will you leave us?"

"Oh—very well," said Mr. Clement Frith, a little sulkily. "Having your welfare very much at heart, my love, I certainly felt. However—doubtless you know best. With which he went out of the room, humming softly to himself.

For a moment or two there was silence between them. Then Dora asked a question softly.

"How were you saved—Frank?"

"I got away in a small boat, and drifted for days. We were picked up by an outward-bound vessel, and taken to Australia."

"I'm glad you were saved, Frank," she said, in a low voice. "I wish—with all my heart—that you had come here yesterday."

"Why—what do you mean?" he asked.

She broke down then, and began to cry hopelessly and helplessly. Perhaps it was rather good to feel his arms about her, and to hear his soothing words; good to forget, for a moment or two, that she was bound to someone else, and had no right to have these soothing arms about her at all.

"You mustn't talk to me; you must say goodbye, and never see me any more, as long as you live," she said. "I never intended to do it, Frank; I didn't understand what it meant. If any of that old love you had for me remains, will you promise to be my friend, and to help me? For, God knows, I never needed a friend so much as I do now."

"I don't understand," he replied, in a bewildered tone. "What has happened?"

"I—I am married!" she exclaimed; and hid her face in her hands.

For a moment he looked at her in astonishment; then he suddenly thrust her away, with an exclamation of repugnance.

"All—I understand now," he said. "You thought I was dead; you were so ready to forget the boy who had loved you. You heard of someone richer than I was; you thought—"

She was down on her knees before him, clinging to him; praying that he would listen to what she had to say. But he broke away from her, and made for the door. There he looked back for a moment, to give her one valedictory speech.

"I suppose you're right," he said bitterly; "but it doesn't seem fair. I've been a fool, I know; but I thought you'd be certain, in your own heart, that I was not dead, and that I would come back to you. Well—I have; and I wish I hadn't. Good-bye."

When she rose from her knees and looked about her, he was gone; she was alone, to face that strange new life that had opened for her.

Meanwhile, Mr. Frank Dorne went away from the house with two very strong determinations in his mind. The first: to forget Dora Frith from that hour; the second: to go abroad again, without a moment's delay more than was necessary.

"I won't stay here," he thought. "What's the use of money—what's the use of life itself—when a fellow hasn't anything to live for? I'll go back to the life I know and understand; and I'll never look kindly on a woman again as long as I live."

Of course that was very excellent reasoning—and quite proper, under the circumstances; but Frank was young, and hopes are not killed so easily as all that when one is young. He began to have a remorseful feeling that he ought to have waited, and listened to some further explanation from Dora. However, it was no use now; his business was to forget.

The second part of the voluntary programme he had arranged for himself was easier of accomplishment; you can quite rapidly get out of England, unless the police have reasons for wishing to detain you. But even here, Frank Dorne found it harder than he had imagined it would be to tear himself away from everything so hurriedly. He would have another day, at least, in London; a great many things might happen in twenty-four hours.

He drove down to the big hotel where he had taken a room; and there he got through the day somehow, in what fashion he might. There is always a certain amount of eating and drinking to be done in this world, even if one has made up one's mind that life is not worth living.

In the evening of that day, he found himself in the huge smoking room of the hotel. Not many people were there, and he chose a corner near a window, and sat there with his cigar, pretending to read and thinking deeply. Raising his eyes, after a time, from the paper, he held before him the figure of a man lounging in a chair quite near to him. A man obviously asleep, to judge by outward appearances; for his eyes were closed, and his hands were folded lightly before him. Coming back from some dream he had had behind the paper, Frank Dorne awoke to the fact that he knew this man intimately.

For a few moments he looked at him without speaking. The sleeper was a handsome fellow, and the full length of him, stretched out in the chair, could not have been much less than six feet; his rather finely modelled features were singularly handsome in repose; the colouring of his hair and slight moustache was dark. Frank Dorne, delighted at the prospect of having someone to talk to, leaped forward, and laid a hand on the arm of the sleeper.

The man awoke in a moment, and turned as quickly and brightly towards Frank as though he had never been asleep at all. There was no blinking of his eyelids (which, by the way, shadowed very fine dark eyes), and no stretching and yawning. He smiled in the most enchanting fashion, and held out his hand.

"Why, Frank!" he exclaimed, in a curiously soft, languid voice—"have you just dropped from the clouds—or am I dreaming?"

"You were asleep—but this is no dream, Jim," said Frank Dorne, with a laugh. "I've been sitting here ever so long."

"And I've only just come in," replied the other. "I was not asleep; I was merely thinking hard about a matter that was troubling me."

"I didn't think anything ever troubled you," said Frank. "And what are you doing now?"

"What am I ever doing?" asked the other, with a faint smile. "Something or somebody has put me into the world; nature urged me to make a living. There being no mortalist near at hand to hold up a warning finger, and tell me what to do, and what not to do, I have made that living."

"Precisely—precisely," said the other calmly. "It's an ungrateful thing to say, but I sometimes regret, my dear Frank, that you ever had the goodness to fish me out of that remarkably evil-smelling river in India, and give me another lease of life. If you only let me alone, what a lot of mischief I might have been prevented from doing!"

"Well—I suppose you're in clover now, from your quarters?" suggested Frank.

"Oh, this is nothing," replied the other. "One must live somewhere, and this saves trouble."

He closed his eyes again, and lay back in his chair for a few minutes without speaking. Presently he opened them, looked full at Frank Dorne, and began speaking again—letting his words drop out listlessly, despite the important matter of which he talked.

"My dear Dorne—I am on the track of something," he began—"and I'm nonplussed at the outset. Draw your chair nearer; I don't want to be overheard."

Frank hitched up his chair, and bent nearer to the other man.

"I came to England," he began, "on a quest. It'll sound like a fairy tale; but, if you know anything of Jim Cowie by this time, you will know that he doesn't hunt fairy tales—oh?"

"Surely, I think," replied Frank. "Go on."

"In order that you may understand (and I know I can trust you, because these matters don't concern your regular, orderly life) I must tell you the story from the beginning. In fact, before I had anything to do with it. You must know then, that far back in a time which is purely legendary, there existed a certain wonderful diamond. Strangely enough, it has been, for reasons that I will explain, in the private possession of certain individuals for many, many years past. Quite a long time ago, the thing was stolen; I don't know by whom, or from whom. I only know that a man died, and another went out—with the diamond, and the brand of Cain upon him. Whether a curse was put upon the thing, or whether the knowledge of what it was, and how it had been obtained, carried its own curse with it, I do not know; but from that time the long tale of lives sacrificed to it is unending."

"How did you know all this?" asked Frank.

"Oh—I'm in the hunt," replied the other, gravely. "I heard of the thing in the most accidental fashion; in fact, I slept in the same tent with it and its temporary owner one night, in California. In the morning, the temporary owner was dead, and the next man in succession was gone—goodness only knows where."

"And you're after him?" asked Frank, in a whisper.

Jim Cowie shook his head slowly. "No," he replied. "He's gone under too. It was a pity, because I almost came up with him once, and I was with the man who's now got it. That man gave me the slip, and I want to find him."

"Is he in London?"

"He was last night; to-day he's moved, on a stage," replied Mr. Cowie, pulling meditatively at his thin moustache. "You see, the business is, my dear Frank, that this thing has hitherto been useless to all into whose possession it came. The original owners (who may, for all I know, have stolen it from someone else) have long since given up the search apparently; and the thing is so enormously valuable, that each man who gets it owns, for the time being, a veritable white elephant; he can't get rid of it, because the mere fact of trying to negotiate it would bring disaster upon him; he knows he's a marked man while he's got it. So far as I can find out, no single soul who ever got hold of the thing kept it for long; he left the world with much suddenness. A woman got it once; she had it the longest of all; but even she shared the common fate."

"And you really mean that you would—would steal it?" asked Frank.

Jim Cowie held up a protesting hand. "Not for the world, my dear boy," he said. "I should merely take possession of it, as all the countless dead before me have done in turn. To my morality, the thing appeals as being the property of no one; it belongs to the man who can get it. The risk is frightful; but I love risks. It isn't so much the value of the stone, although I know perfectly well what to do with it directly I get it; it's the fine excitement of the thing that appeals to me. This man—Josiah Lagden—"

"Is that the name of the last owner?"

"Yes. He's an old ex-convict; the warriest and the smartest of the lot. If any man—barring myself—can do anything with this wonderful diamond, it is Mr. Josiah Lagden. And then chances to one he'll hide it in such a fashion that it would be utterly impossible for anyone of ordinary capacity to find it. However, I've found his hide-out, and I know where he is—or rather, where he was."

"In London?" asked Frank.

"In London. Trust Lagden for that; there's no hiding place like it. And what does my gentleman do when he gets to London, with three or four after him, hot-foot and ready to do murder for the sake of this diamond? Does he go to some obscure coffee-house, or thieves' kitchen, or common lodging-house, where half a dozen old fellow-jail-birds would recognise him? Not he; he knows too much. He goes, with his respectable grey hair and kindly face, to lodging in North Kensington—a certain Dimple Square."

Frank started violently, and set his teeth sharply into his cigar. It happened that Mr. Cowie had his eyes closed again, and did not see the movement. Frank began to listen more intently.

"He gives no name—this Josiah Lagden; he never stirs out. Finally, he is run to earth; I call there, and can find out nothing; someone else calls, and is repulsed in the same way. Then, afraid that he may actually be murdered in his bed one night, for the sake of the thing—he dies!"

"Dies? I don't understand."

"He gets a certain spurious doctor to come in and declare that he is dying; to give it out abroad that he is dying. More than that, he persuades a young and apparently innocent girl to marry him; a sort of death-bed marriage. She marries him; and the wonderful Lagden grows better in health at once, and disappears that night. Do you follow me?"

"Perfectly—up to this point. But I don't understand his motive," said Frank.

"Nor do I. It's a deeper game than I can fathom; I fail to see what part the girl is to play. Is it a blind; is she mixed up in it; or is she a tool in the hands of Lagden? By G—! he whispered passionately—"I feel that I would like to beat in the door of No. 67, Dimple Square... Why—what's the matter, Frank?"

"Nothing," said Frank Dorne, rising to his feet suddenly. "Only this room is so frightfully hot; can I open the window?"

"Why, of course, old man," replied Cowie. "You look quite white."

Frank Dorne thrust open the window, and leaned his head out into the night. He was trying desperately hard to think, and to think

clearly. He had stood outside No. 67, Dimple Square that morning, and had talked to the girl he had come thousands of miles to see; she had told him that she was married; he had seen her fear and her distress. He saw here some dark conspiracy, with only this frail girl to fight against it. He turned round into the room again, and faced Jim Cowie, with a faint smile. "That's better," he said. "Sorry I interrupted you, go on."

"There's nothing more to tell," said Mr. Cowie slowly. "The girl is mixed up in it—she's the daughter of the house, you know—Miss Frith—and I mean to find out what she's doing. The diamond is the very centre of everything; and a girl like that doesn't marry an old man—a mere lodger—for no reason. I put my money on little Miss Frith. That is to say, on little Miss Frith that was; now Mrs. Lagden."

Frank said nothing; he only wondered, in a stunned fashion, what it all meant, and where this horrible diamond was. Perhaps, from that moment on, he too, determined to take up the chase of it, and to join himself as one more link to the long chain of men who had given their lives for it.

(To be continued.)

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